

History  
OF  
Hanover College

---

Dr. H. V. Moore

LD

2101

H82M8



Class LD 2101

Book :H 82 M 8

PRESENTED BY

*Hanover college*

*20'05.*









HISTORY  
OF  
HANOVER COLLEGE

BY  
A. Y. MOORE, D. D.

INDIANAPOLIS  
THE HOLLENBECK PRESS  
1900

LD 2101  
H82 M8

Gift.  
Hanover College  
2 '05



2  
v. Nov. 11, 1905

## PREFACE

This brief history of Hanover College owes its existence to Miss Drusilla L. Cravens. It was written at her request, to take a place in another publication. She has deemed it of sufficient importance in the interests of the College to publish it in this form. The writer desires to gratefully acknowledge the kindness of Miss Cravens in giving his brief history this separate existence. He has endeavored to set forth the historical relation of the College to the planting and growth of the Presbyterian church in Indiana. He also wishes to acknowledge his great indebtedness to the manuscript history of Hanover College by Dr. Crowe.

A. Y. MOORE.

*Hanover, December 1, 1900.*



# CONTENTS

---

## CHAPTER I

Scenery—Geological Condition—First Settlers—Williamson Dunn—Indian Warfare—Religious Revival—Rev. Wm. Robinson—Church Organization—Primitive School—Dr. Maxwell—Rev. Thomas C. Searle—The Hanover Church—Rev. John Finley Crowe—The Old Stone Church—The Presbytery of Salem—Committee on Education—The Synod of Indiana—Need of Education—Ministers—The Presbyterian Academy at Hanover—Another Revival—Charter Granted—Synod Adopts the Academy—Theological Department.

## CHAPTER II

Dr. Matthews Takes Charge of Theological Department—J. W. Cunningham, Professor of Biblical Literature—The First Misfortune—Dr. Crowe Solicits Funds—Increase in the Faculty—Dr. Blythe Becomes President—College Charter Granted—College Building Completed—Manual Training System—Hanover 1834—Financial Embarrassment—Ecclesiastical War—An Appeal in the East—Tornado of 1837—The Church to the Rescue—An Impostor.

## CHAPTER III

Dr. McMasters—A Law Department—Faculty Changes—Theological Department Removed to New Albany—Faculty Difficulties—Financial Distress—Debt Liquidated—Faculty Enlarged—Change of Location Agitated—Madison Proposition—University of Madison—College Charter Surrendered—Hanover Indignation and Gloom.

## CHAPTER IV

College Building Sold to Dr. Crowe—The Academy Revived—Discontent at Madison—Students Return to Hanover—The Philalatheans Return—Dr. Crowe Begins Reorganization—Professors Desert U. of M. for Hanover—Presbyteries of Madison and Crawfordsville Declare for Hanover—Synod of Southern Indiana Adopt Hanover College—Dr. Scovel Elected President—Synod of Northern Indiana Accepts Hanover—The Prosperous Condition of 1848—Cholera Scourge of 1849—Death of Dr. Scovel—Election of Thomas E. Thomas—Purchase of College Farm—Dr. Edwards Elected President—Completion of New Building—Plan for Endowment—Administration of Dr. Wood—of Dr. Archibald—of Dr. Heckman—Endowment of Mrs. Lapsley—The President's Home—Dr. Fisher—Present Prosperity.

# History of Hanover College

---

## CHAPTER I.

Hanover College is on the Ohio river, six miles below Madison. It is on a high plateau, five hundred feet above the river, commanding an extensive view of the river and its rich valley. The location is one of exceeding beauty. It is also distinguished for its healthfulness. The College is one of the oldest literary institutions of Indiana. It has large, substantial and thoroughly equipped buildings. Its endowment supports its faculty, and its expenditures are kept within the limits of its income. Between eight and nine hundred students, having completed its courses of study, have graduated from it. Between four and five thousand students have taken these courses of study in part. Its roll of honor includes many eminent men in church and state and in educational and scientific work. While one of the earliest institutions in the State, it is young and vigorous and growing, seeking earnestly with bright prospects for larger endowment, increased equipment and greater efficiency in what has ever been its aim and endeavor, thorough work.

Nothing could be more fascinating, if it were possible to give it, than the narrative of the geological and nat-

ural history of the region where the College is located. Old Silurian rocks, far antedating the Devonian rocks of the falls at Louisville, and still further antedating the sandstones of the Evansville region, come to the surface and in immense strata rise several hundred feet in thickness above the waters of the Ohio and the valley through which they flow. Upon these rocks, covered with soil and stretching for miles back into the country with comparatively level surface, grew forests of gigantic trees when the region was first explored by the white man. And through these strata, by mighty erosive forces, whose energies figures can not tabulate, the bed of the river and its valley were in those far-away geologic ages scooped out. Opening into the valley of the river are wild and weird fissures and grand canyons running back into the country, making picturesque valleys, wild ravines, enchanting glens, beautiful water falls and great precipices. From College Point, with its extensive and charming view for many miles down the Ohio through the alternations of the seasons of spring, summer, fall and winter, there is an ever-changing panorama of beauty and glory. Through the countless centuries of geologic time these wonder-scenes of creative power and art grew. Through them LaSalle passed in his voyage down the Ohio in 1685, the first white man that upon its current penetrated to the heart of the continent. We can only surmise what his thoughts might have been as he beheld the vast extent and the undeveloped resources of the new world opened to him.

But our narrative, which is of persons and events connected with the origin, growth, struggles and permanent

establishment of Hanover College, somewhat like Darwin's survival of the fittest, begins within a very modern period, although it may be early in the history of Indiana. We begin with the appearance of the land-hunter in the region. It was shortly after the extinction of the Indian title to this part of the country by purchase of the United States government and its survey and the opening of a land office at Jeffersonville for its sale. The sound of the steamboat had not yet been heard on the Ohio. The Indian still roamed through the forests, seeking game. "Then occasionally might be seen men on horseback, usually two or three together, winding their way through the deeply shaded forests, turning aside sometimes to avoid impenetrable thickets, keeping together for company and mutual protection. They were armed with old-fashioned flint-locked rifles, for they might have an opportunity to shoot a deer or bear, or possibly they might find their rifles convenient for pacifying lurking, treacherous Indians. They were land-hunters, that is, men from Kentucky or elsewhere, seeking homes in this great wilderness. Such a party of land-hunters," continues General Dunn, "were in this region a little while after a narrow strip of land had been purchased from the Indians, recently surveyed and offered for sale by the United States government. They examined the tract of land upon which afterward Hanover was established, as well as other tracts in the neighborhood. One of them remained and inspected with great care the soil, the timber, the stones, the springs, the brooks, on this particular spot. He found that there was not an acre of it that was not fit for cultivation;



that it was well watered on every side. There was not a better tract for farming purposes in all the neighborhood. This land-hunter, a young, vigorous, determined-looking man, made careful examination and note of surveyors' marks on the trees, so as to be sure of his tract, and then rode away. A day or two afterwards he was at Jeffersonville at the land office, and made purchase of the land. This land-hunter was Williamson Dunn, of Mercer county, Kentucky. This land was purchased November 28, 1808. In the fall of the next year, 1809, he came with his wife and two little boys to this land, and built a cabin for a home for himself and family. This was the beginning of the settlement of the region. Settlers came in rapidly, and the stroke of the ax and the sound of falling trees, the blazing of logs and the burning of brush-heaps, were sights and sounds that became familiar. These early settlers were mostly Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, who, or their ancestors, had emigrated from the north of Ireland to Virginia, thence to Kentucky, and thence to these new homes."

After two years of incoming of new settlers, war with the Indians began. The battle of Tippecanoe was fought November 7, 1811. War with England was declared June 18, 1812. The Indians became dangerous neighbors. In the fall of 1812, September 3, the terrible destruction of the Pigeon Roost settlement in Scott county occurred. By an unexpected attack of Indians, three white men, five women and sixteen children were mercilessly massacred. This was only eighteen miles from the settlement of these Scotch-Irish Presbyterians. Though militia from Clarke and Jefferson counties and



volunteers that came from Kentucky, forming an armed force of three hundred and fifty men, pursued the murderous Indians, they escaped. But the new settlements were filled with alarm. Block-houses were built and stockades constructed, in which families were gathered for protection, and men labored with guns and ammunition at hand and butcher-knives in their girdles. For the protection of the settlers Congress passed an act for raising companies of mounted troops called Rangers. These troops were to scout along the frontier to prevent incursions of marauding murderous bands of Indians. Williamson Dunn raised and was made captain of one of these companies. It was the best means of protecting their families. This company was absent about a year, and was mustered out of service at Vincennes in March, 1814. In the meantime, because of the victories of the American soldiers and the severe defeats suffered by the Indians, all danger from them ceased, and new settlers again began to appear. With the establishment of peace early in 1815, they came in largely increased numbers.

But not simply for land and homes had these Scotch-Irish settlers sought the new country. The men and women had had religious training, and doubtless many of them were Christian men and women. The great revival of 1800 and of subsequent years in Kentucky was widespread and deep and pervasive in its influence. The whole population of the State was more or less stirred and affected by it. Its quickening and uplifting power extended to other and new States, and to other people and generations.

Captain Dunn, upon his return home after being

mustered out of the United States service, wished to be enrolled as a soldier of Christ, and he went to Charlestown, twenty-four miles from home, to unite with a Presbyterian church that had been organized there two years before, in 1812. One other Presbyterian church there was in the Territory of Indiana at this time. It was the Indiana Church, near Vincennes, and had been organized in 1806. This first Presbyterian church in the Territory had a minister resident at Vincennes, the only Presbyterian minister resident in the Territory at this time. It was the Rev. Samuel Thornton Scott. He had as early as 1802, it is said, been a teacher and Christian worker in and about Vincennes, before his educational course was completed, and before his licensure and ordination as a minister. He had, after his licensure and ordination, labored as a missionary in and about Vincennes for several months, in 1806 and 1807 each, and in the fall of 1808 he came with his family and became the resident minister of the Indiana Church, and so continued until his death, in 1827. Perhaps some intercourse of Captain Dunn with this Presbyterian minister at Vincennes, who, like himself, was from Kentucky, may have had something to do with his going to Charlestown to unite with the Presbyterian church.

A Presbyterian minister, the Rev. William Robinson, came to Madison and took up his abode there, becoming the second resident Presbyterian minister in the State. He taught school in Madison and preached, and in the summer of 1815 organized a Presbyterian church, with fifteen or twenty members. Mr. Robinson preached to this church until the fall of 1817. He then removed to

Bethlehem, in Clarke county, where he died in the spring of 1827.

About the time the Presbyterian church at Madison was organized, another Presbyterian minister came into the Territory and settled within three or four miles of Mr. Dunn. It was a minister of the straightest of the sects of the Presbyterians, an Associate or Seceder minister. It was the Rev. Andrew Fulton.

In 1810 George Shannon, Sr., James Anderson and other members of the Associate church settled in Jefferson county. They had been members of the Associate church in Kentucky. Seeking deliverance for themselves and their families from the baleful influence of slavery, some had gone several years before to Ohio, but now came to Indiana, with others direct from Kentucky. Some time in the year 1812 they had been organized into a church, and had occasional preaching and ministration of the sacraments by the ministers of the Associate Presbytery of Kentucky. In October, 1815, a call for the settlement of the Rev. Andrew Fulton as their pastor was made and accepted, and Mr. Fulton soon after, with his family, moved from Kentucky and established his home among them. The members of his church were very much scattered, some living twenty miles away in the north part of the county. A church building thirty by forty feet on the ground, and with a ceiling twelve feet high, was erected in 1816. It was simple and rude in its structure and in its furnishing, but in these respects was of like character with the houses of the people. After three years of labor, this first pastor of this church

died, September 10, 1818, leaving precious memories and abundant fruits of his labors. In 1821 another pastor, the Rev. Andrew Isaacs, was settled over the church.

Other Presbyterian and Congregational ministers, on missionary tours through the State, had been visiting and preaching in Jefferson county during the year. In 1817 the Rev. Nathan B. Derrow, from the Western Reserve, Ohio, visited Jefferson county and preached in Judge Dunn's neighborhood. Our land-hunter and captain of Rangers had now become judge. Mr. Derrow had organized a Presbyterian church at Rising Sun in 1816; and in 1817, about the time of his visit at Judge Dunn's, organized the Graham Presbyterian Church in Jennings county, seventeen miles from Judge Dunn's, with seventeen members. In 1818 the Rev. Isaac Reed and the Rev. Orin Fowler met at Judge Dunn's. They were both from New England. They had been acquainted in the East as students of divinity, and had both been licensed by the same Association. Mr. Reed had been preaching for several months in Kentucky, and had now come over into Indiana. He had preached at Madison, and was on his way to New Albany. It was Thursday, August 13, 1818, that Messrs. Reed and Fowler met at Judge Dunn's. Towards evening Mr. Reed preached. On Sabbath Mr. Fowler preached in Judge Dunn's barn. On the Friday before, the record in Mr. Fowler's diary is "visited the school under the care of Mr. Maxwell, which is large and interesting." The school-house had been built, not as a public school, but as a private school. We have a pen picture of the school-house. It was built of split logs put up edge-

wise; the floor was of puncheons; the windows were made by cutting out the parts of two logs next to and parallel to each other, and instead of glass, greased paper was used. There was a large chimney at each end of the house, built of stone, sticks and clay. Long inclined boards along the side and end of the school-house were fixed for those who were worrying with pot-hooks and other exercises in writing. All the benches were narrow, hard and without backs."

The school was under the care of Dr. Maxwell, doubtless not taught by him.

Dr. David H. Maxwell was a brother-in-law of Judge Dunn. When his company of Rangers had been raised for active service in the Indian war, Dr. Maxwell had enlisted as a private. This enlistment was upon the written petition of all the members of the company that he would go with them as their surgeon, they promising him a stipulated compensation for his services as surgeon. Dr. Maxwell was a member from Jefferson county of the Convention of 1816, which framed the Constitution with which Indiana, in 1816, was admitted as a State into the Federal Union. He was the mover in the Convention of the clause in the Constitution which prohibited slavery, for the introduction of which into the new State strong and persistent efforts had been made. In the spring of 1819 Dr. Maxwell moved to Bloomington, and was, with his wife, among the twelve members organized into the Presbyterian Church of Bloomington by the Rev. Isaac Reed, September 26, 1819. After moving to Bloomington, which in 1818 had been made the county-seat of the newly organized



county of Monroe, Dr. Maxwell became influential in securing the location of the State Seminary at Bloomington, and was through all his life a very efficient man in the administration of this institution, which, chartered by the Legislature in 1820, was opened for its first class of students, ten in number, in 1823, became Indiana College in 1827, and Indiana University in 1838.

Before Mr. Fowler left Jefferson county he organized in Shelby township, some ten miles northeast of Madison, October 17, 1818, the Jefferson Church, with seventeen members. October 25, 1818, he organized the Lexington Church in Scott county, with seventeen members, some ten miles south of west from Judge Dunn's.

In July, 1819, the Rev. Thomas C. Searle came to Madison. He was born in Rowley, Massachusetts, January 15, 1787, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1812, was ordained by the Presbytery of Baltimore December 3, 1815, and was pastor of Bladensburg Church, Maryland, until 1817. In 1817 he was elected Professor of Logic in Dartmouth College, but declined the position for missionary work and came to Indiana in 1819, under the auspices of Young Men's Missionary Society of New York City. August 13, 1819, he was assisted at a communion service at Madison by the Rev. Thomas Clelland, of Kentucky, and the Rev. John M. Dickey, who in the month of August, 1819, became the first installed Presbyterian pastor in Indiana, becoming installed by the Presbytery of Louisville as pastor of the Pisgah Church, in Clarke county, and of the Lexington Church, in Scott county, but only for three-fourths of the time over the two churches, leaving the other fourth

for missionary work in the new fields opening in the new settlements made in the State. At this communion service at Madison thirteen members were added to the church, making the total membership of the church thirty-three. But a large part of these members were from the Scotch-Irish settlers in the neighborhood of Hanover. They subscribed two hundred dollars, half the salary of Mr. Searle, and were to have preaching half the time in their neighborhood. The 4th of March, 1820, Mr. Searle organized these members and other persons that united with them into a church, which was called Hanover in compliment to Mr. Searle's wife, who came from Hanover, New Hampshire, the seat of Dartmouth College. From this affectionate regard for their minister's wife came the name of the church, the college and the village. The postoffice, which came in 1830, was called South Hanover, because there was a post-office in Shelby county by the name of Hanover. In time this postoffice in Shelby county became extinct, and the postoffice of South Hanover in Jefferson county became Hanover. August 13, 1820, Mr. Searle was installed by the Presbytery of Louisville pastor of the Madison and Hanover churches. Before the installation of Mr. Searle the erection of a church building at Hanover had been projected. A plot of ground donated for it by Williamson Dunn was accepted. Early in 1821 subscriptions were made for the building. The subscriptions were in produce or material for building, a very small amount of money. Some subscriptions were for fifty bushels of wheat on demand; some were for several hundred pounds of pork in the following

December; some were in shingles, to be delivered when needed; others for hauling; others for smith work. But all difficulties were overcome by four members of the church, George Logan, Benjamin Smyth, Robert Symington and Jesse Dickerson, binding themselves to each other for one equal part of what might be lacking on the subscription for erecting a house of worship so far as to have said house enclosed. Benjamin Smyth, Robert Symington and George Logan were authorized to let the contract for the building of said house; the house was to be of stone and forty feet square. The fifteenth day of May, 1821, was fixed for letting the contract.

Within a few months after the beginning of this enterprise the pastor, under a severe attack of the fever prevalent in the summer and fall in the new country, passed away in death. He died October 15, 1821, at the age of thirty-three. His death was a sad bereavement to the Madison and Hanover churches. Mr. Dickey, in his Brief History, says of Mr. Searle: "He was a man of superior talents, of polished manners, and of a most affectionate disposition. And what was perhaps of more importance to the infant church of Indiana, he was a very zealous, popular and successful minister of the New Testament. He was a man greatly beloved." He was also a man of wide public influence. At the time of his death he was on the committee which, under appointment of the State Legislature, framed the first and fundamental law of the common-school system of the State. Nearly two years elapsed before a successor was found for the church of Hanover. The Rev. John M. Dickey, of the Pisgah and New Lexington churches, and



the Rev. W. W. Marton, of the Salem and Livonia churches, visited occasionally the church, preached to its congregation, moderated its session, and received members into it.

It was also visited by another missionary from the East, the Rev. David C. Proctor. He was a graduate of Dartmouth College and Andover Theological Seminary. He came West late in the fall of 1821, passed through the State, and organized the Wabash Church in Edwards county, Illinois, March 5, 1822, with five members. In May, 1822, he was back in Indianapolis. The capital of the State had been located by commissioners appointed for the purpose, and by approval of their report by the Legislature, January 6, 1821, was fixed, and at the suggestion of Hon. Jeremiah Sullivan, of Madison, was named Indianapolis. At the time of Mr. Proctor's coming to Indianapolis there were some earnest Presbyterians there, Dr. Isaac Coe, James M. Ray and James Blake, men that afterwards became eminent and influential in the history of the Presbyterian church in Indiana, as well as in the public affairs of the State. It was not until July 5, 1823, that the Indianapolis church was organized by Mr. Proctor and Rev. Isaac Reed, with fifteen members. It was doubtless during the summer of 1822 that Mr. Proctor visited Hanover. A horseback ride of ninety miles from Indianapolis to Hanover was nothing for the pioneer missionaries of the State. Mr. Proctor, preaching three-fourths of his time at Indianapolis, also supplied the pulpit of the recently organized church of Bloomington one-fourth of his time, making his journey of sixty miles between his two preaching

points over a road, if such it could be called, that was only a blazed way for the greater part of the distance through a vast unbroken forest.

The 16th of January, 1823, at a congregational meeting of the Hanover Church, moderated by the Rev. John M. Dickey, a call was made for the pastoral labors of the Rev. John Finley Crowe, of Shelbyville, Kentucky. The call was accepted, and in the following May Mr. Crowe moved with his family to Hanover. August 13, 1823, he was installed, the Rev. Isaac Reed and the Rev. John M. Dickey officiating for that purpose by appointment of Louisville Presbytery. In the meantime the stone church, as it was called, had been completed. Mr. Crowe speaks of it as a building that did not shame the times. The walls were not high; the roof had a low pitch, and was finished without cornice or ornament of any kind. There were two large windows on the east, west and north sides each, and two doors on the south side. The appearance of the building as you approached it from the east or north was not satisfactory. But coming from the south or the west, the hill on which it stood gave it a good elevation and favorable aspect. The interior was commodious and well lighted. The walls were plastered up to the square, and then half way up the rafters and across. This vaulted form increased the spacious appearance, and made it an easy auditorium for speaker and hearer. The church was seated with peg benches. On these, unsupported by any back or rest, the congregation sat in their services of public worship until April 15, 1829, when the church was fur-

nished with pews, at which time the practice of families sitting together was adopted.

Mr. Crowe, when he came to Hanover, was about thirty-six years of age. The following sketch of his life until his removal to Hanover was written by his daughter, Mrs. S. C. Garritt: "He was born June 16, 1787, in a frontier settlement of North Carolina, which, in the division of States, fell within the limits of Green county, Tennessee. In 1802 his parents, with a number of families, removed west of the Mississippi, forming a village, which from the beauty of its situation they called Bellevue, now in Washington county, Missouri. Here he taught the neighborhood school, but for years heard no sermon or public prayer. Through the incoming of three ruling elders from the church of Dr. James Hall, of North Carolina, his attention to religion was aroused, and later, through the preaching of a Methodist minister, Rev. Mr. Ward, he was brought under powerful conviction for sin, which resulted in a complete change of life. He soon decided to study for the ministry, and in April, 1809, started for Danville, Kentucky, to enter the classical school of Dr. Priestly. But Dr. Priestly had just gone with his school to Nashville, Tennessee. For a year varied difficulties wrecked his hopes, but through providential leading and the wise advice of the Rev. Samuel Finley, with whom he studied privately his second year, he had excellent literary and social advantages. He then spent two years in Transylvania University, completing his course in 1813. He also began his theological studies under Rev. Dr. Robert Bishop.

“In May, 1814, having been ordained an elder in the Pisgah Church, the pastoral charge of his friend and patron, Dr. James Blythe, he was sent as a delegate from West Lexington Presbytery to the General Assembly, meeting, as it was accustomed to then, at Philadelphia. At the close of the Assembly he went to Princeton, New Jersey, studied through the summer, and entered the second class in the Theological Seminary. He was licensed by the West Lexington Presbytery in 1815, and went to Shelbyville, Kentucky, to take charge of the Academy. He was for a time associated with Rev. Archibald Cameron in a sort of bishopric of the Shelby county Presbyterian churches; later was the happy pastor of two churches, Fox Run and Bull Skin, near Shelbyville.

“But from the time of his conversion he had doubted the righteousness of slavery, and on entering the ministry longed to ameliorate the condition of the slave. To this end he successfully attempted Sunday-school work for slaves, who had permission from their masters to attend, and later afternoon preaching services for them. In numbers and interest these services were successful, but in each case the buildings in which to hold them were denied them. An effort to educate public sentiment through the press then seemed the only way open to him. Being deeply interested in the Foreign Missionary Movement then developing, he finally decided to write of these live questions in a monthly paper to be called the *Abolition Intelligencer and Missionary Magazine*. The first number was issued in May, 1812. The abolitionism was mild. He advocated the enactment of

laws that would permit such instruction of slaves as would fit them for self-government under gradual emancipation, a movement which was then expected to be speedily established. But the theme was distasteful. It immediately brought out protests, then warnings, at last threats, should he continue its publication. The prospects of loss of friends and property and congregations caused great distress of mind and commitment of the case to God for direction, which resulted in his becoming satisfied that the deplorable condition of two millions of enslaved Africans called for exertion and sacrifice. Peace and comfort returned to him under the fixed determination in the strength of divine grace to go forward. This he did for twelve months; but, unlike Garrison, who had 'a dauntless spirit and a press,' he had no press. Then the lack of subscriptions to share the expense, together with the call of the church at Hanover, were to him the voice of God calling away. Removing to Hanover, the following entry was made in his diary: 'By the good hand of God upon me, have I been preserved through dangers, and led, as I trust, by a wise and holy Providence, to Hanover, Indiana, the land of civil and religious liberty.' His interest in the cause did not cease with removal. Voice and a pen were freely used."

In September, 1823, the Presbytery of Louisville, in session at Charlestown, petitioned the Synod of Kentucky to erect a new Presbytery north of the Ohio river, to be called the Presbytery of Salem. The Synod in its session in October granted the petition, and formed the Presbytery of Salem. It was bounded on the east by a



line running due north from the mouth of the Kentucky river. Its boundary on the west, fixed a year later, was a line running due north from the mouth of Green river, twenty miles, then a line from that point running northwesterly to the mouth of White river. From thence a line running due west indefinitely was its boundary on the south. On the north no boundaries were fixed. Thus the Presbytery embraced the most of both Indiana and Illinois. Its first meeting was at Salem, Indiana, April 1, 1824. There were six ministers present, and one was absent. The number of elders present was thirteen. The organization of the Presbytery was important, as its ministers and elders had oversight of the whole field embraced within their boundaries, and were brought in their discussions and counsels into unity of plan and action for the promotion of the religious interests of the rapidly growing and developing country for which they were laboring. At this first meeting of the Presbytery a committee was appointed to devise ways and means for the education of poor and pious youth for the ministry. The committee were to report at the next spring meeting, having a year for their work. The committee were Rev. John Finley Crowe, Rev. John M. Dickey, Elder Lemuel Ford, of Charlestown, Elder Alexander Walker, of Pisgah Church, and Elder William Reed, of Hanover. The great need of the Presbyterian church and of the country was ministers of the gospel. Of the ministers of Salem Presbytery, John Todd had come from Virginia to Kentucky in 1806, the Rev. Isaac Reed had come from New England to Kentucky in 1817, the other members of the Presbytery had received their

classical and theological training principally in the West, and were what would be called Western men. All felt that to supply the great religious necessities of the field, ministers would have to be raised up in the West and from among the churches of the West. The action of the Presbytery in the appointment of this committee to devise ways and means for the education of poor and pious young men for the work of the ministry was doubtless the initial action that led on through the continuity of providential events to the origin and establishment of Hanover College, likewise of Indiana Theological Seminary, and the seminaries that grew out of it, New Albany, and McCormick at Chicago.

At the fall meeting of the Presbytery at Charlestown, further action in educational work was taken. The Presbytery formed itself into an educational society, according to a plan recommended by its Committee on Education. There is no record in the minutes of the Presbytery of this plan, or of the proceedings of the Presbytery as an educational society. From another source we gain a knowledge of their proceedings. But this educational work is connected with the growth of the churches, and we note this growth. The Presbytery, before the fall meeting at Charlestown, had met August 10, 1824, at Madison, for the purpose of receiving and ordaining Mr. Joseph Trimble, a licentiate of the Presbytery of Carlisle. Mr. Trimble was also to be installed as pastor of the church at Madison. But when the Presbytery met he was very sick with fever prevalent in the summer and fall through the country at that early day. The certificate of Mr. Trimble's dismissal to the Presbytery

was received, and he was taken into the Presbytery as a licentiate. The Presbytery then adjourned. On the following day Mr. Trimble died. He was a graduate of Jefferson College, and had studied theology at Princeton Seminary. He was twenty-eight years of age at the time of his death. October 9, 1824, Tilly H. Brown was licensed by the Presbytery at its stated meeting at Charlestown. At this meeting at Charlestown the church of Indianapolis presented a call for the ministerial labors of Rev. George Bush. Mr. Bush not having received his letter of dismission from the Presbytery of New York, the Presbytery could take no action. March 4, 1825, the Presbytery met in a called meeting at Indianapolis for the purpose of receiving and ordaining Mr. Bush and installing him as pastor of the church at Indianapolis, and also to receive Mr. Baynard R. Hall, a licentiate of the Presbytery of Philadelphia. They were received, and the next day, March 5, Mr. Bush was ordained and installed, Mr. Crowe preaching the sermon, Mr. Dickey giving the charge to the pastor, and Rev. Isaac Reed the charge to the people. The spring meeting of the Presbytery was at Washington, Daviess county, April 5. Alexander Williamson, a licentiate of Carlisle Presbytery, was received, and also Mr. Stephen Bliss, a licentiate of Hopkinton Association of New Hampshire. The Presbytery adjourned on the 9th to meet three days after at Bloomington for the ordination of Baynard R. Hall. The ordination was in the State Seminary, of which Mr. Hall was the first teacher. He was also the minister of the Presbyterian church of Bloomington. The Presbytery again met on adjourn-



ment the 3d of June and ordained Mr. Williamson. Again the Presbytery met upon its adjournment, June 24, at Bethlehem, for the ordination and installation of Mr. Brown, whom they had licensed eight months before. Again the Presbytery met upon its adjournment at Vincennes and installed Mr. Scott pastor of the Indiana Church, to which he had been ministering for seventeen years. It also ordained at this time Stephen Bliss, who was preaching to the Wabash Church in Illinois. After these numerous meetings, in places remote from each other, with horseback riding the only mode of transit, the Presbytery met in its regular fall meeting at the Pisgah Church, in Clarke county, October 7. At this meeting of the Presbytery the Rev. John T. Hamilton was received from the Muhlenberg Presbytery. The Presbytery also received as a licentiate from Columbia Presbytery, James H. Johnston, and when it adjourned, it adjourned to meet at Madison on the third Wednesday of October for the ordination of Mr. Johnston and his installation as pastor of the Madison Church.

Important action was taken at this meeting looking to the enlargement of the church and the erection of a new Synod. A number of new members had been received into the Presbytery, and a number of new churches had been organized. There were now about fifty in the Presbytery. It was determined to ask the Synod of Kentucky, soon to meet, to divide Salem Presbytery into three, the Presbyteries of Madison, Salem and Wabash. The petition was granted, and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, in its sessions the next May, formed these Presbyteries, together with the Presbytery

of Missouri, into a new Synod, to be called the Synod of Indiana, and authorized the meeting and organization of the Synod at Vincennes, Wednesday, the 18th day of October, 1826.

But at this fall meeting of the Presbytery at Pisgah other matters of interest claimed the attention of the Presbytery. A committee was appointed to coöperate with the General Assembly in locating the Western Theological Seminary, which it had deemed necessary to supplement the work of Princeton Seminary in providing ministers for the rapidly growing West. The Presbytery hoped to induce the Assembly to locate the Seminary as far west as Charlestown. The committee consisted of Messrs. Crowe, Dickey, Hamilton and Brown. The appointment of the committee made evident the deep interest of the Presbytery in the work of securing ministers of the gospel for the widening field of the West. Another record of the Presbytery, manifesting deep interest in this work and anxious solicitude for it, was a tender tribute paid to Rev. John Young, who had spent a year in missionary labors within the widely extended bounds of the Presbytery. He had been at the meeting of the Presbytery at Vincennes in August. He was taken sick with the prevalent fever of the new country before the Presbytery adjourned, and shortly afterwards died. He had been very useful in his ministry, and his loss was deeply felt. He was a graduate of Union College, and had studied theology at Princeton. He was a licentiate of New Brunswick Presbytery. He and Mr. Johnston were classmates in the Seminary at Princeton, and they came to the West together in the

fall of 1824, reaching Madison the 9th of December. Mr. Johnston was to take charge of the Madison Church, but before doing so he spent three months in missionary labor all over the southern part of the State, traveling about five hundred miles and preaching about fifty times before his return to Madison. Mr. Young preached for him at Madison during eight weeks of his absence. After a few weeks' labor along the White river in the vicinity of Indianapolis, he went to the Wabash, and most of his labors were given to Paris, in Edgar county, Illinois, and to New Hope, whose members were partly in Clark county, Illinois, and Sullivan county, Indiana.

The death of Mr. Searle had been followed by the death of Ezra H. Day, a minister beloved, who came to the church of New Albany in November, 1822. The prevalent bilious fever of the new country for newcomers terminated his life September 22, 1823. Then followed the death of Trimble at Madison in August, 1824. And now the death of Young, in August, 1825, deeply moved the Presbytery, and they appointed a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer, that these afflictive dispensations of Divine Providence might be sanctified to them and their churches.

Recalling the facts of the constitution of the Presbytery into an educational society, and of the appointment of a committee to form a plan and devise ways and means to aid poor and pious young men into the ministry; remembering the appointment of the committee to coöperate with the General Assembly in its establishment of a Western Theological Seminary, and recalling

this tender and solemn feeling pervading the Presbytery because of the frequent deaths of young and prominent ministers, we understand what Mr. Crowe reports in after years as transacted at this Presbytery in connection with work for securing an educated ministry. In a manuscript history, written by Dr. Crowe towards the end of his life, he wrote: "The fewness of the laborers and the immensity of the harvest, together with the loud and importunate Macedonian cry which came from every part of the land, urged upon the Presbytery the question, What can be done to increase the number of the laborers? Again and again," he says, "had the General Assembly been applied to for aid; but that venerable body had not been able to do anything more than to send out occasionally such young men as had intimated their willingness to labor a few months as missionaries in the West. Very few of their missionaries, however, seemed disposed to encounter the trials and privations of a settlement in the wilderness. And of those who consented to remain, four, within two or three years, fell victims to the acclimating fever. Though discouraged by these facts, the Presbytery had still to meet the question, What can be done for the multitudes ready to perish, with eyes directed to us for aid? We had long been praying the Lord of the harvest to send more laborers, but now felt we were called upon to act. The only plan which seemed to promise, with God's blessing, a competent supply for the extended and constantly extending harvest was to raise them up upon the ground." At this fall meeting of the Presbytery in 1825 it was determined to establish a Presbyterian Academy, and a

committee was appointed to devise a plan and select a place. This committee, for various reasons, fixed upon Hanover as the place of the Academy, and the manual labor system as the plan.

The first meeting of Madison Presbytery was at Hanover, April 6, 1826. There were four ministers. All were present—William Robinson, John M. Dickey, John Finley Crowe, James H. Johnston. Seven elders were present. The Presbytery adopted the following order on education: "Presbytery shall use vigorous efforts to educate poor and pious youth of promising talent for the gospel ministry; and they shall earnestly request the members of the churches under their care, if they are acquainted with any such youth, to encourage and assist them, and make them known to Presbytery."

Mr. Crowe, in his manuscript history, writes: "As the contemplated academy was to be located within the bounds of Madison Presbytery, that body at their first meeting took action on the subject, adopted the report of the committee which had been appointed by the Salem Presbytery, and appointed a committee to secure a teacher. This was doubtless done, as the action of the Salem Presbytery had been, by the Presbytery as an educational society. At the fall meeting of the Presbytery at the Jefferson Church a committee was appointed to draft a constitution for the Presbytery as an education society. At this fall meeting of the Presbytery, as the committee had been unable to procure a teacher for the projected academy, Mr. Crowe was urged to organize the school and take charge of it until it might grow into sufficient importance to justify the employment of a



competent teacher. Convinced that the interests of the church demanded a school, and that the interests involved would justify any reasonable sacrifices in meeting that demand, he consented to make the experiment. Accordingly on the first day of January, 1827, he opened in a log cabin, which had been built for a different purpose on his own premises, a little 'grammar school, consisting of six boys, not one of whom was pious, although all the sons of the covenant.

The Rev. W. M. Cheever, a graduate of Hanover College, writes: "My father, who was teaching school in Paris, Jennings county, was prevailed upon by Rev. John Finley Crowe to remove in 1825 to Hanover and open a school in the old stone meeting-house, which was to become in part a sort of feeder to the classical academy which Mr. Crowe intended to open at no distant day. Though a mere lad, I attended my father's school, studying under him the Latin grammar. Two years after, in 1827, when between eight and nine years of age, I started to Mr. Crowe's Classical Academy, which was opened in his old loom house. I remember vividly that first day. It was quite an epoch in my life. Besides my father, who was deeply interested in this young school of the prophets, as he termed it, often afterwards alluded to the events of that day, and they became fixed in my memory. He used to tell me I had this pre-eminence, if no other: I was the first student on the ground the day when Dr. Crowe opened his Academy. On the first day there were but two students present, James Logan and I. He and I had the distinguished honor of being the pioneer students. There were but

two at the first recitation, three at the second, and several others dropped in that week, and more the week following. Perhaps one reason why my memory of those days ought to be better than that of others is that my father was Dr. Crowe's nearest neighbor and intimate friend. These matters were themes of constant conversation between Dr. Crowe and my father in my presence. I call up with more ease the recollections of those days than I do the transactions of 1832, when I re-entered and graduated."

Of the first six entering the Academy, four became ministers of the gospel and two pious physicians.

At the meeting of the Madison Presbytery with the Sand Creek Church, now Kingston, in Decatur county, April 11, 1828, the following resolutions were adopted:

*"Resolved*, That we deem it important to the interests of the church that a school should be established within our bounds, at which young men of promising talent and good moral character may receive such education as, with the blessing of God, may qualify them for usefulness in the church; and whereas a school of this description has been established at Hanover, Jefferson county, under the care of Rev. John Finley Crowe, with assurance of liberal patronage from those in its vicinity, provided it be taken under the superintendence of this Presbytery, therefore,

*"Resolved, further*, That we take said school under our patronage, and that Messrs. Crowe and Duncan be a committee to report a plan for its organization and government."

The school was so received, a board of trustees elected,

a visiting committee appointed, and Rev. Mr. Crowe appointed principal under direction of the trustees.

At the fall meeting of the Presbytery, which was at Hanover, October 3, 1828, the visiting committee made a very favorable report concerning the literary progress of the students. They stated that the condition and prospects of the school were of a very encouraging character; that the number of students was sixteen, and a considerable addition was expected at the next session. They also stated that ground had been given by Williamson Dunn for the erection of a building, and also a donation by him of several lots in the village of Hanover, which had been platted, the proceeds of the sale of which were for the benefit of the Academy, and that a brick building two stories high, twenty-five by forty feet on the ground, would be built in the coming year, subscriptions for the same having been made.

The committee recommended, with some changes in the board of trustees, the appointment of a committee to seek from the Legislature of the State a charter for the Academy. The recommendations of the committee were adopted. Additions were made to the board of trustees, and Jeremiah Sullivan, Williamson Dunn, Rev. John Finley Crowe and Rev. James H. Johnston were appointed to secure the charter from the next Legislature.

A special blessing followed the meeting of the Presbytery at Hanover. Religious services were continued after the adjournment of Presbytery. There was a gracious revival, in which forty persons were added to the church. The revival gave a spiritual blessing to the Academy, added to its reputation among the churches,



and increased its numbers so that to accommodate them it was necessary to remove the school from its close quarters to the stone church.

The committee appointed to secure a charter were successful, and February 26, 1829, the trustees met and organized under their charter. Rev. J. M. Dickey was elected President of the board, Col. Samuel Smock, Treasurer, and Rev. James H. Johnston, Secretary; Rev. J. F. Crowe, Principal of the Academy. It was also determined that another teacher possessing the necessary qualifications for giving instruction in theology should be employed as soon as it was practicable. Messrs. Crowe and Johnston were appointed a committee of correspondence with reference to the subject with such persons as they deemed suitable. October 1, 1829, this committee reported a letter from the Rev. John Matthews, D. D., Shephardstown, Virginia. The committee was continued, and was authorized to bring the subject before the Synod of Indiana. In the meantime the Academy building had been transferred by deed to the board of trustees, and also a farm for carrying forward the plan for a manual labor school. Fifty acres of this farm had been given by Mr. Crowe and fifty by Williamson Dunn.

The Synod of Indiana, which at that time embraced the three States of Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, and had united in it the Presbyteries of Madison, Salem and Wabash in Indiana, the Center Presbytery of Illinois, and the Presbytery of Missouri, met on the 15th day of October, 1829, at Shoals Creek, Bond county, Illinois, forty or forty-five miles east of St. Louis. The dis-

tance which the members of Madison Presbytery were to travel was more than three hundred miles, and the traveling was to be done on horseback.

The time occupied in the journey was over a week. The members that went from Madison Presbytery were John M. Dickey, John F. Crowe, Samuel G. Lowry, Samuel Gregg, James N. Johnston and Samuel Smock. The only elder was Samuel Smock, of the Hanover church. They started early enough in the week preceding Synod to reach Vincennes and spend the Sabbath with the Indiana Church. On Monday their cavalcade, increased by members of other Presbyteries, numbered fifteen. They crossed the Wabash early in the morning and set forward cheerily into the grand prairies of Illinois. These were then uninhabited, with the exception of a few establishments along the principal thoroughfares for the accommodation of travelers. The following is a matter-of-fact statement from the pen of Mr. Crowe of the accommodation of this company of ministers and elders for a night not far from Vandalia, then the capital of the Territory:

“We had traveled until the shades of evening were gathering thick around, when we came to a human habitation, a little cabin by the roadside. As it seemed out of the question for so large a company to be accommodated there, we inquired how far to the next house? Six miles was the response. As the road was new and unbroken, we saw at once that we must make the best of our condition. The family consisted of the man and his wife, their domicile of a single room some fifteen feet square, and without furniture except a small table and

three or four stools. But they were willing to do all they could for our comfort. They would supply our horses with corn and plenty of pumpkins, and ourselves with fried venison and corn bread, and when it came to sleeping, they would resign the house to us. The supper passed off satisfactorily, and when bed-time came we covered the entire floor with our saddle blankets, using our saddles for pillows and our cloaks for covering, the good people of the house occupying a little shanty in the yard as a bed-chamber for the night."

After a journey of eight days the place appointed for the meeting of the Synod was reached. At this meeting of the Synod, the fourth in its history, twenty-two ministers were present and seven elders. Nineteen ministers were absent. Mr. Crowe, as retiring Moderator, preached the opening sermon. At every preceding meeting of the Synod from the beginning the subject of education, and especially theological education, had been under consideration. At the first Synod, at Vincennes, in 1826, a committee was appointed to prepare an overture to the General Assembly on the location of the Western Theological Seminary. Salmon Iddings, of Missouri Presbytery, Baynard R. Hall and George Bush, of Wabash Presbytery, John F. Crowe and James H. Johnston, of Madison Presbytery, were the committee. They prepared an overture for the location of the Seminary at Charlestown, Indiana. Messrs. Dickey, Hamilton and Bush were appointed a special committee of correspondence to look after the interests involved in the overture. This action of the Synod was ineffective, the Assembly locating the Seminary at Alleghany, which

the Synod thought too far East to secure the needed benefits for the West. The action taken by the Synod, though ineffective, showed that interest in the establishment of an institution of learning for raising up ministers on the field for the great Central West was not local or confined to a few individuals, but pervaded the entire ministry and all the churches of the widely extended Synod. At the second meeting of the Synod, at Salem, a committee was appointed to consider the expediency of taking preparatory steps for the establishment of a Literary and Theological Seminary under the care of the Synod, and should such be thought by them expedient, they were authorized to draw up a plan of such Seminary and report at the next meeting of the Synod. Messrs. Dickey, Crowe and Johnston were appointed said committee. At the meeting of the Synod the next year, 1828, at Vincennes, the minutes of the Synod say: "The committee appointed at the last meeting to report on the propriety of Synod taking preparatory steps for the establishment of a Literary and Theological Seminary reported on the same, which was received and is on file. After some discussion on the subject of the report, the further consideration of it was indefinitely postponed, except the item concerning a Theological Seminary, the consideration of which was postponed until the next meeting of Synod." This next meeting of the Synod, the fourth, was the meeting at Shoals Creek, Bond county, Illinois.

It was not an unprepared soil upon which the good seed from Hanover was to be cast, but the ground that had been gone over very carefully for several years in

succession, and that had been thoroughly prepared. The consideration of the report concerning a Theological Seminary, laid over from the Synod of the preceding year, was taken up, and the following resolution was passed:

“WHEREAS, Hanover Academy has been incorporated by an act of the Legislature of the State of Indiana, according to which act the board of trustees of said Academy are permitted by special provision to place it under the care of any body of learned men that they may select; and

“WHEREAS, The board at a late meeting appointed a committee of that body to make a tender of the institution to the Synod of Indiana, that said Synod might avail themselves of the corporate privileges granted in founding a Theological Seminary in connection with the Academy; therefore,

“*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed on the part of the Synod to confer with the committee of the trustees of the Academy, and to report on the subject as soon as practicable.”

The committee consisted of John M. Dickey, of Madison Presbytery, Ashbel S. Wells, of Salem, and James Thomson, of Wabash. The committee reported that the interests of the churches within the bounds of the Synod would be promoted by taking the Academy under the care of the Synod. They recommended the Synod to adopt the Academy; to take measures to establish a permanent fund for the support of Theological Professors, and that the Synod appoint a board of directors to superintend the Theological Department in Hanover



Academy. The recommendations of the committee were adopted. The time was fixed later in the day for the election of the Theological Professor. It was ordered to be by ballot. When the time of election came, John Matthews, of Shephardstown, Virginia, was unanimously elected. Thus were the prayers and labors, faith and hope of the pioneer ministers of Indiana crowned with success in the establishment of an institution of learning which was to begin the work of supplying ministers for the needy and widening fields of the great Central West.



## CHAPTER II.

Dr. Matthews was informed forthwith of his election. Early in December he arrived in Hanover to overlook the field. He met with the board of trustees. They gave full exposition of the origin and design of the institution, its resources and prospects, and placed before him the destitution and wants of the country, and the views and feelings manifested by the Synod at its recent meeting with reference to the whole subject. Dr. Matthews frankly stated to the board the conditions upon which he would accept the position to which he was elected, provided, upon consultation with his friends and consideration of the matter in all its bearings, he felt it was his duty to do so. One of his conditions was the assurance of a support by some responsible body. The board at once took action pledging a salary of six hundred dollars a year for his services, if he should accept the place.

After his return to Virginia, Dr. Matthews was in great doubt as to his duty. His friends counseled against his going to the West. It was hard to sever the ties that bound him to a large and loving church. But he would not close his ears to the Macedonian cry from the West. He determined in his stress of mind to commit the determination of the matter to the Providence of God. He knew that there would be need at once of an

additional Professor for the Theological Department of the school. He determined to visit Philadelphia and New York, and if he could succeed in securing pledges for a salary of five hundred dollars a year for five years for the support of an additional Professor, he would accept the appointment as of a work to which he was called of God. He had no difficulty in obtaining in those cities what he sought from Christian men deeply interested, both from piety and patriotism, in the work of missions in the West. He was successful beyond his expectations. The question was settled, and upon his return home he informed the board of his acceptance, and of his purpose to remove to Hanover in the spring. When he was elected it was not expected that he would enter upon his work in less than twelve months, nor was it expected that there would be any students on the ground for instruction in theology before that time. But Dr. Matthews thought it best for the church he was serving and for all concerned that his removal should take place at once. At Hanover there was no house for him and his family. The board met and directed the building committee to erect at once a log house for the temporary dwelling of Dr. Matthews while a suitable brick building could be erected. The citizens and students turned out as if for fun and frolic, and in a few weeks had a hewed log house, with shingle roof, brick chimneys and four rooms, ready for occupancy, and with but little expense to the board. Dr. Matthews and his family arrived about the middle of May. On the twenty-fourth day of May the board convened and Dr. Matthews, having been elected a member, took his seat

with them. Correspondence, by direction of the board, was at once opened with the Professors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, New Jersey, with reference to securing a suitable young man from the Seminary to be appointed by the Synod as Professor of Biblical Literature. J. W. Cunningham, of the Senior Class, was recommended, and at the meeting of the Synod at Madison in October, 1830, he was elected. At this meeting of the Synod at Madison a detailed plan of union and coöperation of the Synod and of the Academy was adopted. But when the Synod adjourned it had failed to provide for the payment of the salary of the Professor of Theology whom they had called to their work, leaving the burden of this on the board of trustees. In this same month of October a severe calamity had befallen the young institution. The building committee had succeeded in securing funds and erecting a comfortable and commodious brick dwelling for the Professor of Theology. Not only friends at Hanover and vicinity had contributed liberally, but at Madison and at Louisville and from other places help had been given, and the house was about ready for plastering and painting, when, in the absence of the workmen at dinner, children playing with fire ignited the shavings on the floor, and the building was speedily consumed. To again gather means to rebuild from those who had given was hopeless. In this emergency the board determined to appeal for aid for the Theological Department of the Academy to Christian friends east of the mountains. As there were no students of the Academy advanced enough to enter upon theological studies, and as none from abroad

had presented themselves, Dr. Matthews agreed to take charge of the Academy for a time; Mr. William Gregg, a graduate of Miami University, was secured as teacher of mathematics, and Mr. Crowe, principal of the Academy, was commissioned to go to the East as an agent of the institution to solicit funds for it. Early in December, 1830, Mr. Crowe set out on his eastward journey. It was near April, 1831, before he returned. This work was one crowded with difficulties. It called for the exercise of exhaustless patience, of unfailing perseverance and unremitting diligence. Nothing but devoted consecration to the Lord's work, with faith and hope and prayer, could have carried him through all its difficulties and pathetic details, and given him the measure of success which in the end he achieved. He returned with something over three thousand dollars. With this the trustees were enabled to rebuild the house of the Professor of Theology, and also erect a house for the superintendent of the farm, by means of which the plan of the Manual Labor School was to be carried on. This house was also to be a boarding-house for students. The school was prosperous. There were about fifty students in attendance, and these, prosecuting their studies, were clearing off the farm, making rails and cutting cord wood, for which they were credited on their board and tuition at the usual price for that kind of labor.

There were some misgivings as to the Manual Labor system. It was an experiment. It was popular. Many things seemed favorable to it. The institution was prosperous and the trustees went forward. Col. George Briggs had come from New England, highly com-

mended, and a contract was made with him to take charge as superintendent of the buildings, of the work to be done on the farm and in the shop, and to have charge as steward of the boarding-house. Plans were made for the erection of shops and cottages for rooms for students, and also for a college building proper, of brick, forty by one hundred feet on the ground, three stories high, with chapel and recitation rooms and thirty-three rooms for students. This was by the end of 1832. Progress was also made in instruction and studies. At the beginning of the summer session of 1832 over seventy students were enrolled. In the middle of the summer the teaching force was increased by the employment of Mark A. H. Niles, from Princeton Theological Seminary, and a graduate of Amherst College. May 8, 1832, Mr. Crowe resigned the principalship of the Academy, and the Rev. Dr. James Blythe, of Lexington, Kentucky, was elected President. He was a man of reputation and widely known. He had been some years before Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church. He had also been President of Transylvania University for a number of years, and afterwards Professor of Chemistry in the Lexington Medical School. Mr. Crowe was elected Vice-President. The scheme of studies was changed to that of a college course, with a Preparatory Department. Dr. Blythe was Professor of Moral Science, Chemistry and Natural Philosophy. Vice-President Crowe was Professor of Logic, Belles-Lettres and History. M. A. H. Niles was Professor of the Latin, Greek and French Languages, and John H. Harney, who had previously been Professor



in Indiana College at Bloomington, became Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy. Until other provisions could be made, the instruction in the Preparatory Department was to be divided among these teachers. Dr. Blythe, with his family, came to Hanover late in October, and entered upon his work at the opening of the session, November 1, 1832. At the first of the year 1833 the ceremonies of the inauguration of the President, the Vice-President and the Professors occurred. A few days after these ceremonies the trustees received from the State Legislature a college charter. This charter they had asked from the preceding Legislature, but opposition from the trustees of the State Institution at Bloomington had caused their petition to be denied. This opposition had been overcome in the succeeding Legislature, and the obtaining of the charter for the College was celebrated with enthusiasm, and with a grand illumination of the College building.

The College edifice was now completed; the large boarding-house was occupied by a business man, prepared to board two hundred students, and there were dormitories furnished for half that number. There were opportunities for labor, not only on the farm, but in a carpenter's shop and wagon-maker's shop, all furnished with tools and competent men to boss them. These facts were published, and an assurance given that young men of industrious habits might defray the whole expense of their board by their own labor, without impeding their progress in acquiring an education. The spreading of these facts throughout the country by the press caused a confluence of men and boys at the College.



The summer session opened with an enrollment of a hundred and sixty students from fifteen different States. And they kept coming. The number soon became about two hundred. A pen picture of Hanover at the time is of interest. It is from Judge W. W. Gilleland: "My first view of Hanover was in 1834, by moonlight, after walking up from the landing. The dwellings were plain, few and small. There were no sidewalks, but plenty of stumps, and students were everywhere. I shall never forget the strange appearance of the faculty and students as they assembled in the chapel for morning prayers. There were Dr. Blythe, Dr. Crowe and Professors Harney, Niles and Thomson, and students seemed to come from everywhere—the upper stories of the College, Bachelors' Row, four rooms on College Point, a log cabin on Judge Dunn's lot, and from private houses in the town and neighborhood. The town and the College were one in interest and one in sympathy, and each a blessing to the other." But all was not as prosperous as this pen picture and the number of students in attendance seemed to indicate. Troubles arose in connection with the boarding of the students at a dollar a week. These troubles were met and obviated in various ways. But greater troubles arose from the want of sufficient returns from the labors of the students on the farm and in the workshops. But what was to be done? It was the Manual Labor system that had given the College its prestige and secured for it its unparalleled prosperity. Besides, by its charter the College was bound to furnish students a limited amount of manual labor, for which they were to be remunerated by credit on their expenses

in pursuing their studies. But the employment of more than two hundred young men and boys of every variety of disposition and habits for two hours a day in a way that would prove remunerative seemed to be out of the question. A committee was appointed to investigate. They reported a debt of two thousand dollars. The report was startling. But there seemed to open a way of deliverance in adopting the work of printing and binding. This had been publicly advocated in the newspapers as affording profitable employment for manual labor institutions. Some members of the board became its ardent advocates. A heavy expense must necessarily be incurred in adopting this kind of work. But the advocates of the new industry thought there would be no difficulty in raising all needful funds from the benevolent friends of the church school. A press was bought, and with it a religious newspaper, the *Christian Standard*, printed in Cincinnati under the editorial supervision of Dr. Joshua Wilson, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Cincinnati. The name of the paper was changed to that of the *Western Presbyterian*. But it soon became apparent that if the printing business and the publishing of a religious paper were to be of advantage to the pecuniary interests of the College, it would be necessary that the business should be largely increased. With this in view, the printing of books and book-binding were undertaken. This involved the purchase of more machinery and the employment of practical printers for constant labor. To some this enlargement of the business seemed extremely hazardous. But there were others that were earnest advocates of it.

The Rev. J. T. Russel was appointed general agent for the board. He supplied the pulpit of the First Madison Church from April, 1834, to September, 1835. He was an able and eloquent minister. He had become a member of the board of trustees, and was a very earnest and ardent advocate of the printing work of the College and its enlargement. It was hoped that with him in the field as general agent a way of deliverance from pecuniary difficulties would be found. Meanwhile the institution was apparently flourishing. Its number of students increased. In the catalogue for 1835 two hundred and thirty were enrolled; twelve of these were in the Theological Department, five of them graduating.

There was at this time a wide interest taken in the Theological Department of the College. A convention had been held at Ripley, Ohio, August 20, 1834, to which delegates had been invited from the Synods of Ohio, Cincinnati, Kentucky and Indiana. The convention had for its object the reorganization of this department of the College. It was proposed that out of this department the Indiana Theological Seminary should be constituted, with less intimate relations to the board of trustees of the College, the Synods, or those of them coöperating in the scheme, appointing directors, who, with directors appointed by the trustees of the College, should have joint control of the Seminary, while its property and funds should be under the management of the College. This action, greatly enlarging the sphere of influence of the institution, was for the time favorable to it. But there were untoward ecclesiastical conditions, as well as favorable. There were differences in

the Presbyterian Church throughout the country on ecclesiastical methods and measures, as well as differences upon doctrines. These differences grew and increased in intensity, until the great church was divided in 1837 and 1838 into the New and Old School churches. These differences in their beginnings became manifest in the management of the College. There was a struggle in the Synod of Indiana, where the New and Old School parties were pretty evenly divided, for the management of the Theological Department of the College. And when it was seen that the Old School men were in the ascendancy in the board of trustees and the instruction of the College, several who had been active in the board resigned their seats and withdrew their influence and support. J. W. Cunningham, Professor of Biblical and Oriental Literature, resigned. But the board found a successor to him in Rev. Robert H. Bishop. A year afterwards W. McKee Dunn, who had been principal of the Preparatory Department, was elected Professor of Mathematics, Natural Philosophy and Chemistry, in order to divide with Professor Harney the classes in these branches. He accepted on condition that he might be absent a year in study at Yale. Charles K. Thompson became principal of the Preparatory Department. But while the institution, despite the ecclesiastical differences that were troubling it, seemed on the full tide of prosperity, there was real and great danger for it in the financial breakers ahead, which those in charge of the College were making the most strenuous efforts to avoid. While agents were in the field for the religious paper, and a general agent was also laboring, the Presi-

dent of the College visited the East to solicit aid for the institution so prosperous in its work of reaching students, exerting so beneficent an influence, and promising to accomplish so much more, situated, as it was, on the great highway of steam navigation in the Ohio and Mississippi valleys.

The President had not begun his work in the East when he received intelligence of the death of his wife, who had dropped dead from apoplexy while returning on her way home from an errand of mercy to a poor neighbor. It was an overwhelming affliction to him, taking away from him fitness for his work. After a time, however, he resumed it, having made the long journey for it. He succeeded in obtaining in New York and Philadelphia subscriptions for aid to the amount of ten thousand dollars, payable at a future time, but obtaining very little money. He brought back with him, however, on his return a number of books for the library, and also an extensive and well-selected chemical and philosophical apparatus. But no relief was obtained for the growing debt. The general agency was also discontinued, because it had not been successful. Real estate had been offered for sale, and some sold, but nothing like a sufficient amount for the emergency. The printing establishment, with all pertaining to it, was offered for sale, but no purchaser was found. And still the debt grew. It was continually increasing through the printing work. In this emergency Dr. Crowe went to the East to secure help. He made no stop until he reached New York City, and arrived there to see the smoking ruins of one of the most disastrous conflagra-



tions that to that date had occurred in the history of the country. Fire had swept over forty acres of the business part of the city, destroying two millions' worth of property and leaving thousands houseless and homeless. Under such circumstances the men most noted for their liberality and benevolence could not listen to a detail of the pecuniary difficulties of a college far away off in Indiana. Dr. Crowe went on to Boston, but ecclesiastical differences closed the door against him in that city, and after going still further East to Newburyport and not accomplishing anything, he returned to Philadelphia and endeavored to make collections of the subscriptions taken by Dr. Blythe the year before, but with little success, and he was obliged to return to Hanover with only a few hundred dollars as the result of his labors. But the discouraging letters he had written concerning his work had caused the Executive Committee to confer with a young gentleman distinguished for his enterprise and business tact, and who had for some time been connected with the printing establishment, and ascertain if he would not take it and the bindery and the religious paper, the *Western Presbyterian*, off their hands. The committee found him willing to negotiate, and at once closed a bargain with him. The purchaser was Joseph G. Montfort, now, in the last year of the nineteenth century, the venerable nonagenarian editor of the *Herald and Presbyterian*, of Cincinnati, and for so many years distinguished as a minister and editor for his work in the church and by the press. The constant growth of the debt was stopped, although the debt was not liquidated. The Manual Labor system



of defraying in a large measure the expenses of the students had proved a failure, and the number of students in attendance began to diminish.

But there were other untoward events that doubtless coöperated to produce this diminution. Unhappily, divisions arose in the faculty, both in regard to government and instruction. These difficulties issued in the resignation of the venerable President, after four years of most successful conduct of the educational work of the College. The board accepted his resignation, and at the end of the collegiate year in 1836 the College was without a President. Immediate steps were taken to secure a successor, but they were without avail. Dr. Matthews, of the Theological Department, was acting President, the Vice-President, Dr. Crowe, being, at the request of the Board, actively engaged in agency work to relieve the College from its embarrassments, which were suddenly and unexpectedly largely increased.

On the fifth day of July, 1837, a tornado of great violence swept over the village of Hanover, prostrating everything in its path. The College building was sadly wrecked. That there were no lives lost was due to the fact that when the disaster occurred some seventy students that roomed in the building were at supper in the Refectory, which was not in the path of the tornado. The tornado was followed by a tremendous rain, which continued all night. The ruin wrought was revealed next morning. The main building of the College was unroofed; the eastern wall of the third story was thrown down, and the wing, a two-story building, twenty-five by forty feet on the ground, was demolished to the

ground. The house of Professor Niles, a few rods to the east of the College, was not only demolished, but its materials, together with a large library, had been scattered like chaff before the wind. Happily, there were no occupants in the house. Professor Niles and his family were in New England, whither they had gone some months before for rest and recuperation. The effects of the tornado were more seriously felt in the finances of the College. Immediate repairs were necessary, and to make them required a large outlay. The destruction of most of the dormitories and all the recitation rooms led necessarily to a dispersion of most of the students until repairs could be made. Some forty or fifty, mostly of the higher classes, remained and had their regular recitations in a school-house. The old stone church had been torn down, and arrangements had been made for building a new house of worship, larger than the old, which was too strait for the growing congregation. The church had made arrangements with the College authorities to hold their Sabbath services in the College chapel while their new building was going up, and they had a large amount of material on hand and a goodly sum promised upon subscription for their building. All this inured greatly to the benefit of the College in its emergency and financial distress, which was increased by the loss of the fees of the departed students and their diminished numbers, as many that left never returned, having entered into other institutions. By the trustees and officers of the church, representing the mind of the congregation, an agreement was made with the trustees of the College by which the subscription and

material of the church for its new edifice were turned over to the College for reconstructing its edifice, the church acquiring the right to hold its services in the College chapel until such time as the College could reimburse them for what had thus been turned over and it should be best for all parties that there should be a new church building, as had been originally planned.

At the College commencement of 1837 there were fifteen in the graduating class, but the prospects of the College were dark. Professor Niles sent his resignation from New England, giving as his principal reason the condition of his wife's health. A month afterwards Professor Dunn tendered his resignation, on account of the financial difficulties of the College. A month after this Professor Harney tendered his resignation. It was stroke after stroke. The hearts of some of the trustees failed them. They proposed to disband and give up the institution. But notwithstanding the embarrassments, difficulties and discouragements, the majority, convinced of the great importance of the work in which they were engaged to the interests of church and state in the rapidly growing West, resolved to go forward, trusting in the favor of God and man to crown their efforts with success, and to establish in permanency and with widening influence the institution which had been founded in faith and prayer. At the beginning of 1838 they thought they had found a President in Rev. Duncan McAuley, D. D., of Columbus, Ohio. He was principal of a high school at Columbus. He was commended to the board as a gentleman well qualified to preside over a college. He was represented as having recently emi-

grated from Scotland, and as having testimonials of the most satisfactory character as to his talents, attainments and high standing among the scholars of Scotland. During some agency work in Ohio Dr. Crowe had visited him, and was favorably impressed with his appearance and manners. He was elected President at the beginning of the year. At the same time the board of trustees elected Noble Butler Professor of Latin and Greek. They also elected Thomas Hynes Professor of Mathematics. Dr. McAuley was inaugurated March 27. His address at his inauguration made a fine impression. He was attractive and popular in his manners. The summer session opened with the most flattering prospects. But two months had not elapsed when the board were astounded by the most indubitable evidence that their President was an impostor, and that twelve months before he had been deposed from the ministry by a Presbytery in Upper Canada for gross immoralities. His relations to the College were consequently severed, and in July it was again without a President. But, marred as the history of the College was by this incident, and sad as it is to have so ignoble a name upon the pages of its catalogue and in the roll of its honored and distinguished Presidents, the mistake was so quickly corrected that no permanent injury came to the College from it.

### CHAPTER III.

Again the institution was in quest of a President. Soon they found a true man. It was E. D. McMasters, of Scotch lineage, from Ballston Center, New York. A letter of inquiry to him respecting his willingness to accept the position brought in return a letter of inquiry from him respecting the College, its condition and prospects, that made so favorable an impression that they at once unanimously elected him President.

The answer of the board to a question of Mr. McMasters respecting the extent of the country that might be considered tributary to the College sets forth very clearly the difference between the Hanover of that day of steamboat traveling, and before there were any railroads in the State, and the Hanover of to-day, when railroads are everywhere and steamboat traveling is comparatively a thing of the past. The board wrote: "Judging from the patronage heretofore given, we would answer that the extent of country is immense, the inhabitants of which are disposed to patronize our College. As it is located on the bluffs of the Ohio river, almost all the States of the great valley are brought, as it were, to its doors, so that we have students from New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Illinois and Missouri, as well as from the Southwestern States." In their reply to the questions of Mr. McMasters the



trustees fully set forth the difficulties and embarrassments of the institution: no funds for the support of the faculty and for contingent expenses, except tuition fees of students and such aid as could be gathered by agents from friends of the institution willing to contribute to its support; the debt of the College about equal in amount to the value of its property; the untoward events that had occurred, greatly embarrassing the College; the great tornado that had wrecked the College building; the fact that the College had been without a President or chief executive officer for the past two years; and the great financial depression and distress of the country that had begun in the preceding year and was still prevailing. But the trustees also set forth in their letter the encouragements they had for the institution. First, the fact that, with no other foundation but the faith and prayers and efforts of its founders, it had grown in eleven years from a school of six scholars in a log cabin fourteen by sixteen feet to be one of the most reputable colleges in the West. Second, the fact that the Old School part of the Presbyterian Church took a lively interest in it, and looked to it for their future ministry, and the assurance that the friends of the College were numerous, and would, if it were conducted acceptably to them, exert their influence to direct students to it and aid its funds.

Mr. McMasters accepted the Presidency. He was expected to be in Hanover at the commencement, which then occurred in September, but did not arrive until two days after. On November 7, 1838, during the first week of the opening college year, he was inaugurated



President. He was at this time thirty-two years of age. He was a man of great abilities and great learning, and, beginning in his connection with Hanover College the educational work of his life, he became greatly distinguished in it, though not so much in collegiate as in theological instruction. He sought with an earnest zeal the promotion of the interests of the College, and in many ways manifested an eminent wisdom and prudence. One of the first things recommended by President McMasters was the establishment of a Law Department in connection with the College. Upon his recommendation Judge Eggleston, an eminent jurist of Madison, who, it was ascertained, would accept the position, was elected Professor of Law. At the end of the college year four students reported in the Law Department. At the beginning of the year 1839 Professor Butler resigned his professorship, and shortly afterwards Samuel Galloway, of Hillsborough, Ohio, a graduate of Miami University, was elected his successor as Professor of Greek and Latin. At the annual meeting of the board in September, 1839, Dr. Crowe was compelled by the state of his health, which had been declining for several years, to resign his position as secretary of the board, and also his professorship in the College. He spent the winter in western Texas, and returned the following spring with renewed vigor, and, declining the further work of instruction in the College, was called a second time to the pastorate of the church of Hanover, and was again, in August, 1840, installed as pastor.

In the fall of 1840 an event not a little detrimental to the interests of the College occurred. It was the re-

moval of the Theological Seminary from Hanover to New Albany. For several years this change had been foreshadowed. The primary object in the establishment of Hanover Academy and College had been the education of ministers of the gospel for the growing West. For the accomplishment of this work the Synod of Indiana had established in connection with it a Theological Department. The growing wants of the West had brought into association with the Synod of Indiana other adjoining Synods, and an entire separation of the management of the Theological Department from the College had been effected, and the Theological Department had become a theological seminary entirely independent of the College, except its funds were under the management of the trustees of the College. It had, however, been ascertained that its connection with Hanover College even this much was a reason for some of the friends of the colleges of neighboring Synods to stand aloof from the Seminary, under the impression that it gave to the College at Hanover an important advantage over its rivals in their laudable competition for public favor. The directors of the Seminary therefore proposed, with the concurrence of the several Synods interested, to submit the question of its continuance at Hanover or removal from it to a delegated convention called to determine the question of location. This convention met at Louisville in November, 1838. New Albany, Hanover and Charlestown were put in nomination. New Albany offered a bonus of eight thousand dollars; Hanover offered a bonus of two thousand dollars, which included a beautiful site for buildings overlooking the river, a gift

offered by the owner, George Logan, an elder of the Presbyterian church. Charlestown offered no bonus. New Albany was chosen. But it was two years before all arrangements were made for removal of the Seminary to its new home. During its continuance in Hanover its number of students had gradually increased from three to thirty. Dr. Matthews had continued with it from the beginning, and remained in the institution until his death, which occurred on the 19th of May, 1848, in the seventy-seventh year of his age. There had been associated with him at Hanover five different Professors in the chair of Biblical and Oriental Literature. Of two of these, Professors Cunningham and Bishop, mention has been already made. The third was Rev. Oswald Hunter, from Scotland. He was on a visit to friends, and was persuaded by the directors of the Seminary to occupy temporarily the chair of Ecclesiastical History and Church Government. Upon the death of Professor Bishop he was called to the chair of Biblical and Oriental Literature. His wife dying soon afterward, he returned at the close of the session to Scotland. The Synod of Kentucky, in the fall of 1838, elected the Rev. Lewis W. Green Professor of Biblical Criticism and Oriental Literature. He entered upon his duties at Hanover, but after a few months resigned and returned to Kentucky. In the fall of 1839 the directors elected the Rev. James Wood to the chair that had been vacated by Professor Green, and in November he brought his family to Hanover and entered upon his duties. The presence and work and influence of these men had been of great benefit to the College and community, and the

removal of the institution which had brought such men and which would take them away with it was felt as a sore bereavement.

Before the removal of the Seminary occurred, Professor Galloway resigned. Judge Eggleston's health also failed him, and the Law Department of the College was closed because the trustees were unable to provide a successor to Judge Eggleston. During the continuance of the Law Department its attendance increased to ten students. At the annual meeting of the board in September, 1840, the Rev. C. K. Thompson was elected to succeed Professor Galloway. Minard Sturgus was elected principal of the Preparatory Department and Professor of Modern Languages. Mr. Thompson could not, on account of other labors in which he engaged, accept the professorship to which he was elected. The year after Professor Sturgus was elected Professor of Greek and Latin. Combined with all these changes and discouragements still continued the burden of the corporation's debt. The financial stringency still continued, and hard times. The attendance of students had also been decreasing. The number on the catalogue for 1840 was one hundred and five, but the largest number present at any time was eighty-five. The number on the catalogue for 1841 was eighty-five, but the largest number in attendance at any time was sixty-five. Certainly there had been depression, and there was discouragement. But the President wrought at his work with zeal and success. Under a plan recommended by him to the board, and approved by them, for securing a permanent endowment fund, he had obtained twelve thousand

and four hundred dollars. Work, however, which had been begun on this endowment fund soon after Dr. McMaster was inaugurated President, was suspended on account of the continued financial depression of the country. But in March, 1842, the President submitted a plan for the liquidation of the debt of the College. The plan was adopted, and December following, nine months afterwards, a report was made to the board of the settlement and payment of all claims, except one claim of a few hundred dollars, which remained unpaid for the time because of legal delays in connection with the settlement of an estate. A debt of fifteen thousand dollars had been removed. The skies certainly were brightening. Dr. Crowe says: "The year 1843 seemed to open with prospects peculiarly encouraging for the prosperity of the College. The stringency of the money market had relaxed, and both agricultural and commercial interests were looking up. Dr. McMaster was popular, both as a presiding officer and as a successful teacher, and the College stood high in the public estimation." At a meeting of the board in 1843 two new Professors were elected: the Rev. Sylvester Scovel, Professor of Chemistry and Natural History, and Rev. W. C. Anderson, Professor of Logic, Rhetoric and Belles-Lettres. Some of the members of the board hesitated, fearing a consequent debt. But Mr. McMaster urged that, as the College was now disenthralled from all pecuniary embarrassments, both its patrons and the community at large expected it to take a higher stand among the literary institutions than it ever had occupied, and it behooved the board to see to it that



these reasonable expectations were not disappointed. And while he admitted the correctness of the principle that expenditures should not exceed income, he assured them that if Messrs. Scovel and Anderson were elected, both of whom were known to be successful agents, all difficulty would be overcome by making such arrangements that either he himself or one of these men should be in the field as agents of the College until it should be able to sustain itself. Thus urged, the board elected the new Professors. Mr. Scovel declined, but Mr. Anderson accepted.

The commencement in July, to which month it had been changed, gave decided indications of improvement. There were nearly one hundred students, and there were eight graduates. In October Professor Anderson attended the meetings of the Synods of Indiana and of Northern Indiana, and made a verbal report of the condition and prosperity of the College in every way promising, with more than a hundred students in attendance. Resolutions were passed in both Synods, with active unanimity and great cordiality, pledging themselves to sustain the College with all their influence, and recommending it to the patronage of all their churches. The College, indeed, seemed on the high road of prosperity and of desired and deserved success. In December, 1843, another scene opened in the drama of its life, which at first seemed bright with promise, but soon gathered gloom and portents of destruction. On the 10th of December an adjourned meeting of the board was held, at which the treasurer made his report for the college year ending in July preceding, and also a report

for the current year. There were nine members present, all from Hanover and Madison. At this meeting the following resolution was adopted:

*“Resolved,* That a committee of five be appointed on the state of the College, with instructions to report concerning the practicability and expediency of selecting a new location and the erection of new edifices thereon; and also concerning the ways and means of effecting the same and meeting the current expenses of the College.”

Messrs. E. D. McMasters, Victor King, Williamson Dunn, L. M. G. Simrall and Tilly H. Brown were appointed the committee. The board then adjourned, to meet on the 18th day of December to hear the report of the committee and to act upon it.

The College building had been sadly wrecked by the tornado of 1837. In repairing damages the third story of the building had been removed, and it had been made a two-story building. The wing that had been demolished had not been re-erected, and the building, as it had not been repaired after several years of use, greatly needed renovating. It was insufficient also for college purposes. The erection of a new building had been talked of. There had been also talk of a change of location, removing from the center of the village to the high bluff a half a mile east, overlooking the river, and visible to the throngs of travelers passing up and down the river on the steamboats of that time. With entire unanimity the action of the board had been taken that this question concerning the new building and new location might be settled. The committee, before dispersing, agreed to meet on Friday afternoon of the following

week, three days before the meeting of the board, for preparation and consideration of the report. Dr. McMaster went to Madison with the members of the board from that place, and did not return until late in the afternoon of the Friday upon which the committee was to meet. Before this Friday came, rumors were heard in Hanover that Dr. McMaster was in Madison negotiating with the citizens of Madison for a transfer of the College to Madison, with a change of name to Madison University, and with enlarged powers. On Thursday afternoon word of this proposed change was brought to Dr. Crowe, the founder of the College, and whose life and work had been so intimately connected with it. He had not heard of the matter before. He assured his informant that it could not be; he was certain Dr. McMaster could not be taking part in such a scheme or work. But a few hours later a hand-bill, printed over the names of some thirty citizens of Madison, was shown him. The document was as follows:

*"To the Citizens of Madison:*

"It is probably known to most of you that the Hanover College, which has existed the past ten years in our vicinity, after a period of great pecuniary embarrassment, is at the present time in a much improved condition. A debt of more than fifteen thousand dollars has, we learn, been recently liquidated. The trustees hold a subscription of more than twelve thousand dollars toward a permanent fund.

"The number of students is much increased, about one hundred being in attendance the present session. From a concurrence of causes, this institution is looked to at

the present time with a lively interest, not only by a large portion of the citizens of our own State, but from a very extensive region of the Ohio, including large portions of the adjoining States, as well as of the country further south. We understand that the trustees, encouraged by the favorable prospects of the institution, have it in contemplation to take immediate measures to select a new location, erect new edifices, and improve in other respects its condition.

“The question has arisen in our minds, and we trust will enlist the interest of every citizen of Madison, whether such inducements may not be offered to the removal of the College from Hanover to this place and its combination with a large institution to be established here, under the conduct of the gentlemen now at Hanover, and such as may be associated with them, and thus to secure our city the advantages of a literary institution established upon such a character as to become the leading institution for the whole central and lower part of the Ohio valley. The object should be at once to obtain the power of a University, and to take measures for the establishment of a Law Department and for professional teachers, in addition to the general College Department.

“The advantages, pecuniary, literary and moral, which such an institution would confer upon our young and rising city are as obvious as they are numerous and great.

“1. The erection of the requisite buildings would at once cause an expenditure here of from twenty to forty thousand dollars, benefiting mechanics, merchants, laborers and all classes of citizens. And, beautiful and

elegant as they would be, would be an ornament to the city.

"2. Such an institution, with two, three or four hundred students in its various departments, would cause a permanent annual expenditure of not less than thirty to fifty thousand dollars among us.

"3. Every parent who has a son that otherwise must be sent abroad to be educated will save from five hundred to one thousand dollars by having an institution at his own doors, besides all advantages of having his son under his eyes, and enjoying all the salutary influences of home.

"4. The location of such an institution here will enable many to avail themselves of its advantages who could not otherwise hope to enjoy them. Many parents would be able to educate their own sons liberally at home who can not afford to send them abroad. Our young men in mechanical, mercantile and other employments, who do not contemplate the prosecution of a classical education, would have an opportunity of pursuing such branches of study as they might desire without any material interference with their other occupations.

"5. The establishment of such an institution among us would to the commercial character of our city add that literary character which to every liberal and enlightened mind is so desirable, and would confer on it an enviable reputation throughout our own State and the whole country.

"6. It would induce an immigration of families of the best description for intellectual and moral worth, who would be attracted to the place on account of the



education of their sons, and who would form most important accessions to our population.

“Such, fellow-citizens, are some of the advantages which at first sight suggest themselves as about to arise to us from the establishment of such a literary institution among us. What say you? Shall we make the effort necessary to secure these advantages to ourselves? The question is, we understand, in agitation already at New Albany, Jeffersonville, and perhaps other towns on the river. These towns will not be slow to perceive the advantages which its location will confer on the place where it may be established. Can not Madison, in this liberal and honorable competition, offer as strong inducements as any other of its neighbors? It is true we yet feel to some extent the pecuniary embarrassment of the times that have gone over us. But, should a liberal and spirited movement be made, we trust that such arrangements as time and terms of payment may be effected as shall meet the convenience of the citizens. The citizens will be called on in reference to this subject.

*“Madison, December 13, 1843.”*

The plans and purposes of the new University were ideal. If there could have only been a realization of the ideal, a grand institution would have been founded. The advantages of such an institution were clearly set forth, yet the half was not told. But was the building of such an institution with the means at hand practicable? Was it wise to undertake such a scheme by soliciting subscriptions from those just emerging from the conditions of pecuniary embarrassments and make

payment of subscriptions easy by granting long periods of time for payment? Could general promises of influence and help from prominent citizens build up such a projected University? Was it a good, sound, wise, practical judgment to give up an institution that had a heroic history, and had just gotten through a wilderness of trouble, and was on the border of a promised land of prosperity, and concerning whose progress and usefulness there could be no doubt, although there was no immediate prospect of ample endowment and enlarged equipment from resources of wealth in its immediate neighborhood? If some influential and wealthy man or men had deposited in a bank a hundred thousand dollars as a starter for buildings and endowment, there might have been a solid ground of confidence upon which to begin to build in the establishment of the new university. But there was no such foundation. Then, again, Hanover might not die. It had a warm-hearted and large constituency, larger than Dr. McMasters, in his five years' residence at Hanover, had learned of. For it was the college of the church, and was favored and cherished by the growing church throughout the State. But the experiment was to be tried. On the Friday afternoon on which the committee was to meet to consider and approve the report to be made to the board on the following Monday forenoon, Dr. McMasters returned from Madison and read the report which, without consultation with any member of the committee or of the board residing at Hanover, he had prepared. Two of the committee were from Madison. These, with Dr. McMasters, made a majority. His report and recommendations

were to be presented to the board, which met on Monday forenoon at ten o'clock.

It was not a day of telegraphs and telephones. It was very desirable that some of the friends of Hanover should be at the meeting of the board. Dr. Matthews, of New Albany, was president of the board, and had great influence with it. A special messenger was dispatched to secure his attendance. But the messenger did not reach New Albany until after the Saturday steamboat up the river had left, and Dr. Matthews could not reach Hanover until after the meeting of the board on Monday.

The board met on Monday, the 18th, and Dr. Mc-Masters read the following report:

*"To the Board of Trustees of Hanover College:*

"The Committee on the State of the College respectfully present the following report:

"The committee have had the whole subject referred to them under consideration, and have given to it the best examination of which they are capable.

"It is known to the board that after a period of extreme depression, arising from pecuniary embarrassments and other causes, the College is in several respects in a much improved condition. A heavy debt, which had long embarrassed the institution, discouraging its best friends, and producing a widely spread expectation of its entire failure, had been recently liquidated. The number of students in attendance at the present time is larger by about one-third than at any preceding period for the last six or seven years, and the College, we have reason to believe, is looked to with a

lively and favorable interest by a large and intelligent portion of the community, not only of our own commonwealth, but of the neighboring States. Your committee believe that the prospects, if proper measures be taken to accomplish the object of building up on a sound and permanent foundation a large, flourishing and efficient literary institution, to subserve the interests which this College is intended to promote, are far better than at any previous period.

“This very improvement in our condition and prospects creates the necessity of corresponding efforts on our part. We ought not to lose the advantage of what, by much toil and patience and sacrifice, has been gained through want of wisdom or activity to avail ourselves of it. If we suffer the present tide of favorable regard, which appears to be beginning to set towards us, to flow and ebb back without our promptly taking it at the flood, it may be long before we shall have another opportunity. If we be competent to the position in which Providence has placed us, we will arouse ourselves, seize the opportunity offered, and strain every nerve to lay upon perhaps one of the finest fields for such an enterprise that ever opened to the eye of man the foundations of what shall become (if not in our day, after we shall have ceased from our labors) a great and influential institution, to be the handmaid of the kingdom of our God and of his Christ. If all our hopes of this are not to be disappointed, the public expectation directed toward us must be met by the establishment of such an institution as shall deserve, and by deserving, command the public confidence and respect, and give to us our

share of the education of the young men of the country. Measures vigorous, decided and adequate to the accomplishment of this object must be taken. A corps of instructors sufficiently numerous and competent must be maintained, and to retain such the means must be provided of affording to them a liberal pecuniary remuneration. If instructors are expected to perform what belongs to their places, they must be adequately provided with libraries, apparatus, and whatever else is needed to the successful discharge of their duties. A suite of plain but tasteful and commodious buildings, in view of the great highway of steam navigation, near to which we are placed, is of very great importance in furtherance of this object at which we aim.

“Your committee, in view of all these things, have revolved with anxiety the subject of the present condition of the College and of the provision of means to enable it to accomplish the objects for which it has been established. They have been particularly instructed to report on two points: First, the practicability and the expediency of selecting a new location and erecting new edifices thereon, and the ways and means of effecting the same; second, the ways and means of providing for the current expenses of the College. Both these questions in our present circumstances seem to be encompassed with difficulties.

“In respect to the first question, they believe the erection of buildings more suitable than the present edifice to the purposes of a literary institution to be exceedingly important. No intelligent man, it is presumed, with the subject fully before him, in seeking to found a



great institution that is to stand for many ages, would deem the present site eligible in preference to one in view of the river. Yet if a site near the river be selected it will render necessary not only the erection of the buildings requisite for immediate college purposes, but of houses and other appurtenances for the professors and for the boarding and lodging of students. All this would involve an expenditure of not less than fifty thousand dollars. Your committee know not where or by what means such a sum can be raised to be expended for this purpose in this place, or even the amount requisite to the erection on the present site of buildings on the most restricted plan which any may have contemplated. The other question referred to them presents, if possible, a still more serious aspect. It appears from the treasurer's report, presented to the board at their last meeting, that the income is not equal to one-half of the current expenses of the College, and that within sixteen or seventeen months there had been incurred a debt of about twenty-three hundred dollars. Thus, after having by great efforts and sacrifices freed ourselves from a similar onerous burden, we are plunging headlong into another ruinous debt. This sane and honest men can not allow. The case is one of pressing urgency. The employment of an agent to secure contributions for this purpose has been suggested. But your committee, upon the best information which they have been able to obtain, believe that, though some small sums might be thus collected, the expectation of providing in this manner for so great a deficit as exists in the means of de-

fraying the expenses of the institution would be delusive and end in disappointment.

“Under the pressure of these difficulties, an overture has been made by the citizens of Madison, proposing an incorporation of the interests hitherto concerned in sustaining this College with a larger institution, possessing the powers of a University, to be located in that city, and promising on these conditions, in subscriptions and property (exclusive of the Seminary lot and building), a sum estimated at twenty thousand dollars, with verbal assurance from prominent and influential citizens that the whole expense of the requisite buildings will be contributed by citizens of that place. It has also been suggested that by a removal to that town a much larger number of pupils can be brought into the preparatory school than can be at this place, thus increasing the number of students in the higher departments, and so increasing the amount of income, so that it shall be equal to the present annual expenditure.

“It would seem to be well worthy of reflection whether this proposal does not offer important advantages that ought to be embraced. Certainly, if we attempt at all to promote the great interests of truth and godliness through the establishment of a literary institution, we ought to make it the largest and most influential which it is in our power to make it, and the opportunity of establishing, under such a control as we approve, an institution such as it is hoped by the blessing of God the foundation of may be laid, is not to be lightly rejected. If we do so, and draw ourselves up in our narrow shell, others wiser in their generation will not be slow to seize

the advantages which we thus refuse. It is, moreover, worthy of consideration whether it is not necessary to enlist some local interest by which the necessary buildings may be obtained from the place where this institution shall be established. This will still leave the libraries, apparatus and endowment, without which no such institution can be well established or be expected to take a high rank, to be provided for from other quarters. Can we afford to reject the proposal made to us? The opportunity of adding a large number (probably from sixty to one hundred) of students to the preparatory school, and a corresponding amount to the income of the institution, is perhaps not to be rejected in our present pecuniary circumstances without thought. How else is the support of the institution to be provided for? It is vain to think that it is to be by pecuniary sacrifices on the part of the instructors, such as they have made during the last five years. We have the assurance from the best authority that these can be continued no longer. It may be said that we have the prospect of a large increase of students, and of income from that source. Not unless we can at once put the College in such condition as to meet and satisfy the reasonable expectations of intelligent and thinking young men and of their parents. It is idle to expect it. The instructors may, by their personal exertions and influence abroad, bring students to the College, but they can not keep them. The decided indications from the last two months have been that, continuing in our present condition, we will have a less number the next session than we have the present.

“Your committee, unable to propose any other meas-

ures that seem to them to promise success, and not knowing how otherwise the pressing necessities of the College are to be provided for or it sustained, submit the proposal to you for your consideration."

The report was received.

Following this report was a series of resolutions providing for the abandonment of the College at Hanover, the surrender of its charter to the Legislature of the State, the securing of a charter for Madison University, and the acceptance by the board of a Seminary building at Madison and gifts aggregating, with the value of the Seminary, twenty thousand dollars, supplemented by verbal promises of other gifts, which, assurance was given, would be contributed.

In vain did the members of the board residing at Hanover plead for delay in voting upon the report until there should be a full meeting of the board. Dr. McMaster said he had conferred privately with a number of members of the board enough to make a majority. And while he had not hinted of the matter to members of the board residing at Hanover, he had consulted with all, he afterwards declared, whom he thought competent to give a good and sound judgment upon the matter. Among those whom he trusted as confidential advisers were new members, little conversant with the affairs of the College, and who had met but once before with the board.

There was a majority in favor of the report and the action provided for in the resolutions accompanying it, and the report, with its resolutions, was adopted. Committees were appointed to apply to the Legislature, then

in session, for all necessary legislation for the changes contemplated, and so that Madison University might be opened in the second week of January, 1844, at the regular time of the opening of the second session of the college year.

The State Legislature enacted all the legal measures necessary, and Hanover College reached what seemed to be the end of its life. It was a tragic event for Hanover. The College was dear to its people. They had loved it and cherished it and made great sacrifices for it, and devotion to its interests had entered very largely into their religious life. The College had in turn become inwrought with their business interests, and the industry of numbers had been so shaped that their support was dependent upon the supplies necessary for the College population. The removal of the College was not only as the death of one beloved, but one who also was a stay and support. The mourning was like that of Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted because they were not. Dr. Crowe, in his manuscript history, speaks of the tears of widows who saw in the removal of the College the loss of their earthly all. He also speaks of his own agony of heart in seeing thus ruthlessly swept away, without any previous warning or expectation, the College for which he had so labored and had made so great sacrifices, and which had accomplished so much good and seemed to be just entering upon a bright era of prosperity.

If Madison University could in its beginning have realized the ideal of President McMasters, and, as Minerva from the brain of Jove, in full stature and



complete panoply, could at once have entered into a complete equipment of buildings and libraries and endowments, doubtless every friend and supporter of Hanover would have rejoiced in the new University and in the transfer to it of the reputation and honor of Hanover and whatever of material possessions it held. But to destroy that which had been built up in faith and prayer and with self-sacrifice, and which had survived threatening perils, had accomplished untold good and was full of promise, and to attempt to realize a high ideal upon a foundation more inadequate than that which was abandoned, and to build up with iridescent verbal promises an institution whose fame should go through all the Central West, seemed not only unwise, but heart-rending and ruinous.

## CHAPTER IV.

The charter of Hanover College was surrendered to the State Legislature just at the commencement of the two weeks' recess at Christmas, and, the charter for the Madison University having been secured, arrangements were made for opening the following term at Madison. Professors Hynes and Sturgus and Eckstein, a new Professor of Modern Languages, knew nothing whatever of the proposed change of location until the astounding report of it was brought to Hanover. Though against their will and wishes, there seemed nothing else for them to do but to go into the new locality to which their chairs had been carried.

The College building at Hanover was, by the enactment of the Legislature, sold at public sale. Dr. Crowe bidding ten dollars, and no one bidding against him, it was sold to him at that price, subject to the lien of the church upon it. At the same time that the session of the Madison University was opened, he, with his eldest son, who was a graduate of the College, opened a classical and mathematical academy in the old College building. This was done at the very urgent solicitation of the session of the church and of the citizens of Hanover and vicinity, in hope that in some way this might lead to the restoration of the College. In a short time forty students were in attendance in the academy, a number of them students who had been in the College classes.

Difficulties arose in the way of the institution at Madison. The surroundings of the students in the city, with its restaurants, saloons and enticements to evil, were not so favorable to study and good order as the quiet and moral and religious influences of a secluded village. Those who wished to improve their time and opportunities could not accomplish their work, and those who could be led astray were enticed into ways of evil that were prepared for them. The Professors became dissatisfied, the surroundings and the baleful influences blighting their work and the lives of the students committed to their care. Professor Anderson soon resigned and withdrew. Professors Hynes and Sturgus and S. Harrison Thompson, who was elected at the opening of the term, resigned before the end of the spring term of three months, and gave notice that they would withdraw at the end of the term. Two weeks before the close of the session of the University, at a regular session of one of the literary societies, the Philalathean, the subject of a return to Hanover was brought up, and so general was the feeling of dissatisfaction with their circumstances and prospects that a resolution was proposed and passed unanimously to return forthwith to Hanover. And next day they loaded their furniture and library of sixteen hundred volumes into wagons, and the society in a body went to Hanover. Their arrival in Hanover was a great surprise. Their coming was hailed with delight, and they were received with the greatest cordiality. They expressed their determination to have nothing more to do with Madison University, and requested permission to occupy their old hall in the College building and to

hold their spring exhibition in the College chapel. Their request was granted, and with their presence it seemed as if the College might come to life again.

Dr. Crowe had been strongly urged to undertake the work of re-establishing the College. Providential events seemed to indicate to him that that was the way of duty. Without any solicitation or knowledge of the friends of Hanover, at the time when the charter of the College was surrendered to the Legislature and a charter for the Madison University was granted, by the action and influence of two members of the Legislature, John S. Simonson, of Clarke county, and Henry Lee, of Jefferson county, an amendment was made to the bill that was about to pass, reviving the original charter of 1829 for Hanover Academy. The amendment was carried and the charter of 1829 restored. Thus, without thought or solicitation on the part of those specially interested, was a legal foundation laid for the re-establishment of the College if providential events favored it. A number of ministers from different parts of the State had written to Dr. Crowe, urging him to undertake the work. The course of events at Madison, the resignation of the Professors of the University, and the return of the Philatheathean Literary Society to Hanover, indicated that the way was opening for the work of reorganizing the College, not as a close corporation, but what it was originally intended to be—a college of the church.

Dr. Crowe began his work by soliciting in Hanover and vicinity for the support of three Professors for two years. He accomplished this without any difficulty. Two of these subscriptions were for four hundred dollars each.

Overtures were made to Professors Hynes, Sturgus and Thompson for their services. Professor Hynes declined to accept a professorship, as he wished to devote himself to the work of the ministry, but he favored the movement, and would give daily instruction a portion of his time. Professors Sturgus and Thompson agreed to accept. A meeting was then called for April 6 for organization as a corporate body under the charter for the Hanover Academy approved January 6, 1829, and revived and approved January 15, 1844. The organization was effected, and the following persons became trustees: John Finley Crowe, Tilly H. Brown, Williamson Dunn, George Logan, William Reed, John M. Young, Robert Simonson, Jacob Haas and John D. Smock. After organization Rev. James M. Henderson, Rev. James A. McKee, Rev. David Lattimore and Rev. Thomas W. Hynes were elected additional members. Mr. Hynes, being present, took his seat. The following appointments were made as Professors: Rev. John Finley Crowe, D. D., Principal and Professor of History, Logic, Rhetoric and Political Economy; Minard Sturgus, A. M., Professor of the Greek and Latin Languages; Samuel Harrison Thompson, A. M., Professor of Mathematics and the Natural Sciences; Frederick Eckstein, Professor of the French and German Languages and of Drawing. The sessions were to open the first Mondays of May, September and March. Thus was prepared the opening again of Hanover Academy, with the expectation of its soon becoming once more Hanover College.

The next week Madison Presbytery met, and April 11



adopted, with but one dissenting voice, the following resolution :

*“Resolved*, That this Presbytery deeply regrets the surrender of the charter of Hanover College; that we heartily approve of the efforts of its worthy founder and former friends to continue and build up again a school of the prophets at Hanover, and that we cordially recommend said school to the prayers and sympathies of our churches.”

About the same time a similar resolution was adopted unanimously by the Presbytery of Crawfordsville, indicating a widespread interest in behalf of Hanover. On the first day of May, 1844, the institution was opened with the most flattering prospects of success. At the meeting of the board preceding the commencement, a greater number of students was reported as in attendance than had been for several years before, with one exception.

At the meeting of the Synod of Indiana at New Albany early in October, 1844, Dr. McMaster presented a communication from the president of the board of trustees of Madison University, containing an authenticated copy of the act of the Legislature creating that corporation, which act provided that the Synod of Indiana should have power to appoint one-half of the trustees, together with a summary statement of the organization of the board, the establishment of a college for general academical instruction in the University, and the condition, design and prospects of the school. Dr. McMasters availed himself of the occasion in presenting these papers to make a long and elaborate speech in

justification of himself and coadjutors in the destruction of Hanover College for the purpose of building up a larger and more efficient institution. A motion was made at the close of his speech that the Synod adopt Madison University as their school and unite with the board of trustees, according to the provisions of the charter, in its superintendence and control. After a protracted discussion the motion was lost. There was then presented to the Synod a memorial paper, setting forth the organization and history of Hanover Academy and College and their relation to the Synod and of the Synod to them, and also setting forth the facts in the removal of the College to Madison, the surrender of its charter, and the organization of Madison University, the re-enactment by the Legislature of the charter of Hanover Academy, what had been accomplished for the rebuilding of Hanover College, the assurance they had of obtaining a new charter for the College, and a determination to rebuild the College, which had accomplished so much, for which so much of sacrifice had been made, which had the sympathy and favor of so many ardent friends, and for which the prospects were so promising. And the Synod was asked again to adopt the College as its own. The assurance was given that its board of trustees would no longer be a close corporation, electing their own members, but that the Synod should have a direct agency in its management by their own election of trustees of the board. Provision for this would be made in the new charter which was to be obtained from the Legislature of the State, soon to meet. The Synod, by an overwhelming majority, decided to

resuscitate their College, adopting Hanover Academy in the meanwhile as their Synodical school. And inasmuch as in the surrender of the charter of the College Hanover had been declared to be an unsuitable place for the College, a committee was appointed to examine the whole field and report at the next meeting of the Synod in favor of such place as they might judge most favorable to the interests of the church and prosperity of the College. At the next meeting of the Synod the following year, at Vincennes, the committee reported in favor of Hanover. Before this meeting of the Synod at Vincennes the new charter had been obtained for the College without any opposition, and much more liberal and desirable than the one that had been surrendered.

After the Synod at New Albany had refused to accept participation in the control of the Madison University and to pledge it the patronage of the Synod, Dr. McMaster accepted the presidency of Miami University, and the Madison enterprise was abandoned. Thus Hanover had the field again as the college of the Old School Presbyterian Church, with the sympathies of the Synod and its patronage and help pledged to it. The work of establishing the College had to be begun anew. There was a good name, which was of great value, but no permanent funds, an essential factor in building up a college. There was a college building, but not an adequate one. And the equipment of library and apparatus was entirely wanting. What had previously belonged to the College had, with everything else, been transferred to Madison University. But with willing hands and glad hearts the long and arduous work of re-establishing the

College was undertaken. The catalogue of 1845 was one which, under the circumstances, was luminous with hope. There were eighty-one students. The great majority of them were from a distance. Sixteen were from the village and neighborhood; the balance were from nine different States. Forty-six were from Indiana, sixteen from Kentucky, nine from Mississippi, and the remainder from six other States.

The Rev. Dr. Sylvester Scovel, of New Albany, was, in August, 1846, unanimously elected President. Dr. Scovel had been for some years District Secretary of the Board of Domestic Missions. He was a Christian gentleman of vigor and energy, whose praise was in all the churches. His executive and financial abilities fitted him especially for the wants of the College at this period. Under his administration the College paid its way. He secured in a short time a very excellent though comparatively small library, and began the work of gathering a permanent endowment fund. The following action of the Synod of Indiana, which met at Crawfordsville, October 14, 1847, throws light upon the history of the College during the first year of Dr. Scovel's administration:

*"Resolved*, First, that this Synod does rejoice in the prosperity of Hanover College, in the increasing number of its students, in the success that has attended the efforts that have been made to secure funds for its endowment, but especially in the divine favor shown to it in the conversion of more than forty of its pupils to God during the past year.

*"Resolved*, Second, that in the judgment of this Synod

the success of the past year ought to be regarded as a call from God to take courage and go forward, assured of success in time to come.

*“Resolved, Third, that Synod respectfully suggests to the board of trustees the importance of covering the whole field just now with a vigorous and efficient agency, and asks that the agents of the board be encouraged in all our churches.*

*“Resolved, Fourth, that inasmuch as the Synod has heard with pleasure of the willingness of the Northern Synod of Indiana to coöperate with this Synod in building up a Presbyterian College for the West, this Synod cordially invites said coöperation, and further requests the trustees of the College to submit to said Synod such terms of union as in their wisdom may appear just and equal.”*

The Synod of Northern Indiana had been organized by the General Assembly of 1843. It held its first meeting in October, 1843, at Fort Wayne. It at first consisted of the Presbyteries of Logansport and Lake Michigan, extending but little south of the Wabash, although northward without bounds, embracing all of the few Old School churches in Michigan. Later it extended as far south as Indianapolis, and its growth and development was of the utmost importance to the College. At the annual meeting of the trustees of the College in August, 1848, a communication to the board from the Northern Synod of Indiana was submitted to them, asking the privilege of taking part in the work of building up the College. This communication was referred to a special committee that reported as follows:

L O F C.



"Your committee have had under consideration the proposition of Northern Indiana to aid in rearing the College, and to be allowed the privilege of appointing one trustee of the board; and finding from an examination of the charter of Hanover College that said charter restricts the appointment of trustees to the Synod of Indiana conjointly with this board exclusively; and whereas this board is desirous to reciprocate the kind regard of the Synod of Northern Indiana, and to give her a share in the government of this institution, the committee therefore recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

*"Resolved, unanimously, That the Synod of Northern Indiana be invited to nominate, at its next annual session, one person as a trustee of Hanover College, and that this board, at their annual meeting in August next, will confirm such nomination."*

With this action of the board was sent an explanatory statement that by the action taken the Northern Synod of Indiana had thereby accorded to it the privilege of nominating, every fourth year, a person to be appointed trustee, so that there should in all times be in office one trustee appointed by said Synod. But at the next annual meeting of the board, in August, 1849, further and more liberal measures were taken for securing to the Northern Synod a share in the work and management of the College. Measures were adopted to petition the Legislature at its coming session for such a change in the charter of the College as would give the Northern Synod an equal share with the Synod of Indiana on the board of trustees. The Legislature made the change,

and thereafter the Northern Synod of Indiana, as long as it retained its separate existence as a Synod of the Old School church, elected annually two members of the board of trustees of Hanover College.

Until near the close of the college year of 1848 and 1849 there was marked and general prosperity. The College catalogue showed an attendance of one hundred and eighty-three. Seventy-four of them were from Indiana, thirty from Ohio and Kentucky each; the balance from ten other States. But before the college year closed a great calamity befell the College. It was the death of its President. The scourge of Asiatic cholera swept through the Ohio valley, and the last of June appeared at Madison. A student of the College was one of its first victims at Hanover. The disease spread rapidly. The College was disbanded and the students permitted to return home. Dr. Scovel, who had been in feeble health for some weeks, was attacked by the dreadful disease on the forenoon of the third day of July, and expired at four o'clock in the morning of the fourth of July. Three students died, and twenty-two of the citizens of the village. The death of Dr. Scovel was a very sore bereavement and a great loss to the College. But though a master workman was taken away, the work was not to stop.

At the annual meeting of the board in August, 1849, the Rev. Thomas E. Thomas, of Rossville, Ohio, was elected President. Under his administration the College continued to prosper, but not without financial difficulties. His administration was especially distinguished by the purchase of what has since been known as

the college farm, and the erection of a new College building on the high bluff of the farm, overlooking the river. It was in October, 1849, that the board determined to purchase the farm for the erection of the new building in the near future. The farm was half a mile east of the old College building. It contained about two hundred acres, half of it upon the hillsides, and covered with forest trees. The other part of the farm was a level plateau, and giving upon the very brow of the hill, five hundred feet above the valley and the waters of the Ohio, a choice place for buildings and commanding views of natural scenery, yielding increasing pleasure and delight. Although, however, the place for the new College building was chosen, and the College was flourishing, with a large number of students, yet its financial condition was such, notwithstanding the diligent and faithful work of its agents, that not until the spring of 1852 was a plan for a new edifice adopted, and not until a year later was the building committee directed to enter into a contract for its erection. And, beginning with an insufficiency of funds for the completion of the work, the difficulties were greatly enhanced by the discrepancy between the estimated cost of the building by the architect and the actual cost as the workmen proceeded. It was estimated to cost eighteen thousand dollars. The actual cost when at length the building was completed was more than twice that amount. Before the work was completed the contractors were asked to stop their work because of the lack of funds. In 1854 Dr. Thomas resigned the Presidency of the College, in order to accept the Professorship of Bibliology in the New Albany The-

ological Seminary, to which he was at this time elected. His resignation was greatly to the regret of the students and of the board of trustees. In May, 1855, the Rev. Dr. Jonathan Edwards, of Fort Wayne, was elected President, and was inaugurated at the succeeding commencement in August. The College was in financial straits because of its new building, and because of arrears accruing upon Professors' salaries; it had, however, the sympathies of the churches of the two Synods, and its agents were busy throughout the State in gathering funds and disposing of scholarships for five and ten years of tuition in the College for subscriptions of fifty and one hundred dollars to the building fund for the new College building. But while these subscriptions for scholarships helped the building fund, it took away from the support of the Professors; for the payment of the salaries of the Professors had been mainly dependent upon the tuition fees, which had been for some years thirty dollars a year. Thus it was that while the College was prospering, with a large attendance of students, the income for the support of the Professors was diminishing, and their salaries were left in arrears. In this emergency the board of trustees and the friends of the College determined to secure an endowment fund of \$100,000, the interest of which only should be used for paying Professors' salaries and current expenses. In April, 1855, this action of the board was determined upon. It was indorsed by the Synods of the State in their meetings in October. Agents had access to all the churches. Subscriptions were to be taken, payable in five or ten years. And these subscriptions were to be-

come binding only upon the condition that the whole amount of one hundred thousand dollars was subscribed in good and reliable obligations. These subscriptions, when they became binding, gave the makers of them scholarships in the College, upon which they could place students, who should have their tuition in the College free. Interest upon these subscriptions at six per cent. per annum was due in advance from the time of the announcement that the whole sum of one hundred thousand dollars had been subscribed. At a meeting of the board held at Indianapolis in November, 1856, it was announced that one hundred and one thousand two hundred and ninety eight dollars and fifty-six cents had been raised in good and reliable notes and subscriptions. It was a matter of great rejoicing that this success had been achieved. It inspired new hope and new zeal. Relief was anticipated for the suffering faculty, in the payment of whose meager salaries there had been such accumulating arrearages. The board also took new heart in their building enterprise, and it was determined to push the building, if not to completion, to such a stage of completion that it would do for occupancy at the commencement of the next college year. The subscriptions, however, that had been made for the College were not like funds placed in productive investments; nor were they like cash in hand, which could be readily invested in productive funds. They were to be collected from a wide region of country, and were liable to shrinkage from the vicissitudes occurring in the lives of men; from migrations; from losses from disasters from diseases and death. Likewise, another wave of financial



disaster had swept over the whole land, strewing it with financial wrecks, and producing a general stringency in money matters. And there was not in the management of the affairs of the College that relief from financial burdens that had been anticipated. But if there was not immediate and full relief, the clouds of discouragement had in large measure lifted, and there was light all around the horizon. At the annual meeting of the board in August, 1857, the following paper, presented by James M. Ray, of Indianapolis, and seconded by Jesse L. Williams, of Fort Wayne, two of the most able and honorable elders of the church in the State, was unanimously adopted:

“WHEREAS, The trustees of Hanover College have at length the pleasure of announcing that the next session of the institution will be opened during the approaching fall in the new and extensive building erected on the beautiful grounds of the corporation, overlooking the Ohio river, it appears to be an appropriate occasion for the board to invite the renewed coöperation of all the friends of the College to effect in the best manner possible the benevolent and valuable objects of this institution.

“The board reiterates their united conviction that, vital as has been the existence and progress of the College to the training and education of the young men of the country, and especially in and from the families of Presbyterian churches in Indiana in the past, still more needful and valuable is the continuance and enlargement of Hanover College for the present and future prospects of our youth, both for providing candidates for the ministry and for other useful walks of life.

“The erection of the new and excellent building for the College, which is unequalled, at least in the West, in its fitness for the object designed, has cost much more than was expected, but it is fully worth all it will cost.

“To meet this excess and the accumulating claims to the Professors during the raising of the endowment fund, it is needful that all additional means necessary be contributed for the aid of the College, as well as that the subscriptions to the institution in every form be as soon as practicable paid, or advanced if not due, that the amount thus received may be so invested as to be made productive and fully meet the needful current expenditures for the successful conduct of the College. It is the purpose of the board to limit the expenditures of the institution to its income.

“The board therefore request of the two Synods of Indiana, of all the members of the churches composing these Synods, and of all the friends of sustaining a college for the Presbyterian churches in Indiana and in this part of the West, the earnest and prompt aid to this institution needful for its wants; and for this purpose we solicit the favorable action of the sessions, the Presbyteries and Synods of our church in this State. And in connection with this request the board express their unanimous and decided determination, on their own behalf and that of all the friends of the College, that the progress of Hanover College shall henceforth be onward, and only onward, perpetually.”

The entrance into the new College building marked a new era in the history of the College. Its course since has been onward and continuously onward, though not

without difficulties and struggles because of poverty. But through all its straits and distresses it has pressed on steadily in the achievement of its noble work in higher Christian education, attaining gradually better equipment, larger endowment and established permanency. Its history subsequent to its occupancy of its new building can only be briefly indicated here. Dr. Edwards, after two years in the Presidency, was called to the pastorate of the West Arch Street Church, Philadelphia, and accepted. The Rev. Dr. James Wood, Associate Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church, was elected President in April, 1859, and continued in office through the troublous times of our great civil war and until November, 1866. Under him the College was strengthened financially, and received its first large individual gifts for equipment and endowment. Dr. G. W. Archibald succeeded Dr. Woods. He had been pastor for a number of years of the First Church of Madison, but had been called from it to the pastorate of the Westminster Church of New York City. He continued President for two years, when, having been elected by the Presbyterian General Assembly Professor of Theology in the Danville Theological Seminary, he resigned the Presidency of the College to enter upon the new duties to which the General Assembly of the church had called him. The Rev. Dr. George C. Heckman, pastor of the State Street Church, Albany, New York, was elected in July, 1870, to succeed Dr. Archibald. He accepted, and continued in the Presidency until July, 1879. He had been pastor of the Third Church of Indianapolis before he went to

Albany, and was familiar with the affairs and history of Hanover College. Under his administration the larger part of the gifts of Mrs. Lapsley, aggregating fifty thousand dollars, came to the College, though a goodly portion of this amount was given under the administration of Dr. Woods. A bad investment of college funds by the Treasurer, E. J. Whitney, a banker of Madison, became the cause of the resignation of Dr. Heckman in 1879. The income of the College was so reduced that it was necessary to reduce the salaries of President and Professors, and Dr. Heckman resigned for want of adequate support for his family. The income of the College was reduced for some years, but the principal of the funds invested unwisely for the College, though advantageously for the Treasurer, was restored to the College after long protracted litigation. Under Dr. Heckman's administration the President's house was built, a beautiful and commodious mansion and ornament to the grounds. The present President, the Rev. Dr. Daniel W. Fisher, succeeded Dr. Heckman. He was elected in July, 1879, and inaugurated September 2, 1880. With his incumbency came co-education. The progress of the College since can not be better indicated than by a statement from the *Hanover Journal* of October, 1900, prefacing the proposal of another forward movement for securing a twentieth century fund of one hundred thousand dollars for further endowment and equipment of the College. The extract is:

"For these many years Hanover College has not failed in any of her attempts to add to her outfit for her work. Sometimes the goal has been reached quickly, and again

there has been long delay, but always it has been attained. One after another the Y. M. C. A. Building, College Point House, Music Hall, the Observatory, the Gymnasium, Science Hall, the repairs and improvements of Classic Hall—the old main building—have come. During the period covered by these additions to the buildings, not less than one hundred thousand dollars have also been added to the endowment funds, and many minor improvements have been made.”

These brief statements respecting the history of the College subsequent to 1857, give verification to the words of the determined purpose and confident prediction of the grand men and noble friends of the College of that day, “the progress of Hanover College shall henceforth be onward, and only onward, perpetually.”















LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 029 908 917 4